

Inquiries of the Ministry

into effect on July 1. Is the minister prepared to discuss this with the United States authorities, because it will have a very detrimental effect on the economy of Alberta and Saskatchewan?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, may I assure the hon. gentleman I have already discussed this subject quite thoroughly with the American authorities when I was in Washington the other day. The change that was made was one that I hope I had some influence upon, which enlarged the market for oil in the United States. I would like to supplement this, sir, by a statement that might be useful to the hon. member.

The amendments to the proclamation affect only districts I to IV of the United States, which is roughly that area of the United States lying east of the Rocky mountains. They do not affect district V, which is the west coast of the United States, and which takes more than half of our exports.

Reading the amendments to the proclamation in the light of my consultation with the United States authorities, to which I have already referred, I anticipate that our exports to districts I to IV for the second half of 1963 will be at approximately the same level as that of the first six months.

We have made arrangements for further consultation in relation to our future exports of oil and, as the house is aware, we have proposed to our American friends that joint studies be initiated concerning all forms of energy. I look to preliminary discussions being held in the near future to establish the guidelines for these studies.

AGRICULTURE**TURKEYS—REMOVAL OF QUOTA ON IMPORTS FROM U.S.**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. On May 31 the minister said in answer to a question in the house that it was too early to say whether or not the quota on turkeys coming into Canada from the United States would be lifted as a result of trade negotiations at Geneva. I wonder if the minister is now in a position to make a statement?

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member put this question on the order paper, please?

[Mr. Horner (Acadia).]

EGGS AND HOGS—CONTINUATION OF DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale): I should like to ask the Minister of Agriculture if it is the intention of his department to continue to pay deficiency payments on eggs and hogs on a national weighted price annually, as these payments have been made in the past or is a change contemplated?

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member I may say that we expect to make an announcement in this regard in the very near future.

CROP INSURANCE—APPROVAL OF MANITOBA PLAN FOR REINSURANCE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Selkirk asked if I had had an opportunity to consider the request from the province of Manitoba relating to the Crop Insurance Act and if I had given approval to the Manitoba plan for the federal government to issue reinsurance.

I may say that proposals for federal reinsurance of part of provincial crop insurance risks were received from the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan in 1961 but no decision with respect to these proposals has been reached to date. The government is studying the provincial proposals and a statement of government policy will be made in due course.

CHEESE—REPORTED INCREASE IN PRICE FOLLOWING SUBSIDY REDUCTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. E. Cardiff (Huron): I should like to direct two questions to the Minister of Agriculture. Have Canadian exporters raised the price of cheese to the United Kingdom by one cent per pound since April 8, 1960? If so, would the minister tell the house the reason for this increase?

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): The hon. member's question was:

Is it true that exporters had to raise the price of cheese one cent per pound to counteract the reduction in the export subsidy imposed by this government?

The question of the pricing of cheddar cheese on the export market is a matter of negotiations between the exporters and the importers. It is understood that, because of the market situation, the Ontario cheese producers marketing board negotiated a price in Britain approximately one and a quarter