

EXPROPRIATION ACT

DISCUSSIONS WITH FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE RESPECTING AMENDMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack Roxburgh (Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice of which I have given notice. He is not here at the moment, so I will address it to the Acting Minister of Justice. Is the minister giving serious consideration to meeting with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to discuss ways and means of improving the present Expropriation Act, and has he reached any decision as to how soon this meeting will take place?

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General): I have taken notice of the question, Mr. Speaker.

GRAIN

INQUIRY AS TO INCREASED DELIVERY QUOTAS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. When he met recently with officials of the Canadian Wheat Board did the matter of extremely low delivery quotas in western Canada receive consideration, and can the minister tell us when it is expected that this situation will improve?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have no specific information in respect of this question.

[Later:]

Mr. R. R. Southam (Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. It is related to the one regarding low quotas put a few moments ago by the hon. member for Rosthern. Did the minister in his discussions with the wheat board receive information with regard to future wheat sales which may result in higher quotas for Canada?

Mr. Winters: Mr. Speaker, I could say the report I received is realistic. I told the house before that prospects for the sale of wheat this year are not as good as they were last year. It is a difficult selling market, but in the face of these difficulties the wheat board is making progress.

Mr. Southam: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what countries may be interested in the sales and what are the possibilities? We have heard the same answer for some time.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Could the minister inform us whether the wheat board has arrived at an estimate of the total wheat sales in this crop year?

Mr. Winters: I said a few days ago at a hearing before a committee of the other place that I expect the total wheat sales this year to be between 350 million and 400 million bushels, but that it will take hard selling and some favourable circumstances to reach the higher figure for which we are striving.

Mr. Nasserden: I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of the pessimistic report he has given us, does he think he could speed up the final payments on wheat, oats and barley to the producers to enable them to take care of their seeding operations?

Mr. Winters: Mr. Speaker, I answered that question last week, but we will expedite the payments as much as we can.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

REPORTED INTENTION TO REDUCE DELIVERY SERVICE TO FIVE DAYS WEEKLY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Postmaster General whether it is the intention of his department to discontinue the Saturday delivery of mail?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I think I answered that question some time ago.

[Translation]

On that same occasion, I said that the abolition of mail delivery on Saturday had been recommended by Judge Montpetit and that the department was still studying that recommendation.

[English]

SUGAR

REQUEST FOR REPORT ON MEETING RESPECTING ONTARIO REFINERY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent (Ont.)): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of