

B.N.A. Act

among the government, the agricultural stabilization board and the dairy industry. The minister has not yet indicated—or at least if he did so I failed to get the point—that the problem has been solved with regard to the butter producers, particularly in view of the overrun. The fact is that assistance is now paid on a butterfat price and that from every 100 pounds of butterfat 120 pounds of butter can be made.

The dairy industry has requested an additional $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents so that creamery butter will be produced at the guaranteed price of 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, while the producer will get 64 cents for his butter and the consumer will be giving 52 cents. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents has been requested by the dairy industry.

I believe this must be done to keep the program on a realistic basis. I also believe that something should be done in this connection for the unpasteurized cheese producers. The problem is such that the butter price establishes the cheese price on the export market. The raise in the price will mean an additional cost to the export market for cheese. At the present some assistance could be given to unpasteurized cheese because of the fact that Britain is in a position to buy 6 million or 8 million pounds of cheese that we have not produced.

I hope this consultation with the dairy industry will continue. I believe there must be a much better relationship with the whole dairy industry than is possible at the present time.

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): After listening to the Minister of Agriculture and the hon. member for Timiskaming, it just remains for me to observe that the farmers have not yet received from this government all that they have asked for.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): And it took the hon. member 10 minutes to think up that poor comeback.

FEED CORN—ANNOUNCEMENT OF ASSISTANCE ON SHIPMENTS TO ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have another announcement to make.

As a result of the drought in western Canada there is a shortage of high energy feeds in the Atlantic provinces. Corn has been made available as a substitute in Ontario and Quebec, but because of the distance involved there has not been the same opportunity for its use farther east. In order to sustain the livestock and poultry industry in the Atlantic provinces, cabinet

has authorized an assistance of \$5 per ton on corn shipped to the area by rail or boat up until October 1, 1962.

This program is distinct from the national program of freight assistance on western feed grains. It is designed as a temporary measure of assistance until the fall, when high energy grains are normally available from western Canada.

Details concerning the assistance are presently being developed and will be announced shortly.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillin-gate): Mr. Speaker, this belated announcement by the minister will be much welcomed by those people who almost two months ago came to the minister and made this request. The only thing is that it is unfortunate that two months have been lost.

Mr. Pigeon: Twenty two years of inaction and arrogance.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): We welcome the extension of freight assistance on feeds for eastern Canada. The fact that a subsidy of \$5 a ton will be paid to corn producers we hope will move all the corn that is available, giving eastern agriculture the opportunity to take advantage of it. Because of this necessity at this time we believe the government should give much more consideration to greater equalization of the feed situation across Canada than is now possible under present circumstances.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DIVORCE BILLS TO APPEAR ON APRIL 10 ORDER PAPER

Mr. R. J. McCleave (Halifax): Pursuant to an agreement made in the House of Commons the other day, I hereby give notice that the divorce bills will be on the order paper in their proper place tomorrow.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

AMENDMENT WITH RESPECT TO RETIREMENT OF SENATORS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-86, to amend the British North America Act, 1867, with respect to the Senate.

Mr. Pickersgill: Explain.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The amendment which will be brought before the house will be restricted to retirement at the age of 75 years of all members now in the other place, as well as those who may thereafter be appointed. Provision will be made for a retirement pension for all who are now in the Senate. A resolution to that effect will be