

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, August 13, 1964

The house met at 2 p.m.

TRADE

WHEAT—ANNOUNCEMENT OF SALES TO POLAND AND BULGARIA

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian wheat board is announcing in Winnipeg today that it has negotiated contracts for the sale of approximately 200,000 metric tons of wheat for shipment to Poland and 50,000 metric tons of wheat for shipment to Bulgaria. The sale to Poland, totalling about 7,400,000 bushels, is for shipment during the period August to November, 1964. This is the third sale made to Poland under the provisions of the long term agreement signed on November 5, 1963, and represents a pre-shipment of part of the wheat Poland has agreed to buy during the second year of the three year agreement.

The sale to Bulgaria, totalling about 1,800,000 bushels, is for shipment during the period August to October, 1964. This also is the third sale made to Bulgaria under the provisions of the long term agreement signed on October 8, 1963, and completes the quantities Bulgaria has agreed to buy during the first year of the three year agreement. The credit terms remain as previously announced.

[Later:]

[Translation]

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I should like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

In view of the statement he made a moment ago, could the minister tell us whether efforts similar to those made to dispose of western wheat are being made to sell the products of eastern farmers and, if so, what are those efforts?

[Text]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the Department of Trade and Commerce has the responsibility for promoting the export sale of products in

all parts of the country. This, I think, we do with some success. If the hon. gentleman has some export product he would like to promote, my department would be very happy to listen to him.

[Translation]

Mr. Grégoire: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, again to the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Even though there are no specific products I would care to mention at this time, could the minister put on his list of exports the products which eastern farmers have in abundance and cannot dispose of due to a lack of outlets?

[Text]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CYPRUS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PRESENT SITUATION

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, is the Secretary of State for External Affairs in a position now to advise as to the present situation in regard to the Cyprus United Nations forces? Are additional powers to be secured to enable the forces to go anywhere on the island with the exception of government buildings and, furthermore, to enable them to disarm the local population where the United Nations commanders feel it is necessary so to do in the interests of preserving peace?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday there is to be a meeting of the secretary general and representatives of the contributing powers in New York today. The meeting is scheduled for four o'clock this afternoon and I would have to wait until that meeting is over, either today, or tomorrow, if it continues. In any event, I would simply repeat that so far as any extension of powers is concerned this is a matter, of course, that can only be determined by the security council. After that body reaches a decision it would then be a matter for agreement between the secretary