

Inquiries of the Ministry

TRADE

WHEAT—SALES AT LESS THAN MINIMUM PRICE UNDER AGREEMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): I have a question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce in reference to the statement he made about grain, in which he pointed out that the payments are made by the wheat board out of receipts from sales of wheat. Would the hon. gentleman now tell the house whether any wheat has been sold at below the minimum floor price set under the international wheat agreement, and whether any subsidies have been paid?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): The answer to both questions is yes.

INQUIRIES OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Has he received any other resignations, delayed or ineffective, from the cabinet, in addition to the—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This question is not in order.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, in light of the coming spring equinox, will the Minister of Transport see whether he can make an arrangement to have a large degree of visibility on those days surrounding that date?

POLLUTION

MONTREAL—REQUEST FOR MORE EFFECTIVE CONTROL PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Bud Germa (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of a report by a Hydro Quebec engineer that air pollution in Montreal yesterday was so severe as to cause power failure through short circuits, would the minister make an effort to institute a more effective pollution control program?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I think this would be a good subject to bring to the attention of the government of the province of Quebec.

Mr. Nowlan:—would he undertake to refer this matter to the defence committee?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's supplementary is argumentative.

Mr. Nowlan: How about the first question?

[Later:]

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, I want to rephrase the question which 20 minutes ago Your Honour thought was argumentative. It is directed to the Minister of National Defence. I should like to ask whether the minister has already received a protest about this move from the premier of Nova Scotia. If so, would he undertake to meet the delegation from Nova Scotia before any irrevocable move, as suggested by the minister earlier, is made?

Mr. Cadieux (Terrebonne): Mr. Speaker, I received the telegram at noon. I am willing to meet any delegation which would come from Nova Scotia with problems relating to the base at Greenwood, but I have to confirm that the decision which was taken to redeploy Arguses, as I indicated, is irrevocable.

INQUIRY AS TO PURCHASE OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. In view of a Canadian officer's comment that "mobile command is the most immobile force in the world," has the minister made any progress in the direction of securing further heavy transport aircraft which would have as one of their functions the refueling of the CF-5 now coming off the assembly line?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, may I comment on the first part of the question and say I hope my hon. friend saw my photograph in the local newspapers the other day, showing me jumping off the first helicopter that we had received for mobile command. This implies that very soon we will have the means of being completely mobile. So far as the C-141 is concerned, we are now studying all the options available to the government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.