

Price Support for Eggs

price of 34 cents per dozen to producers for grade A large size eggs. The support price is the same as last year's and is approximately 90.7 per cent of the ten year average.

Payments on claims by any one producer during the support year will be limited to 4,000 dozen grade A extra large size, grade A large size, and grade A medium size eggs. Producers must be registered with the board and have marketed their eggs through registered grading stations, or have sold their eggs to retail outlets as producer-graders to be eligible to claim for any deficiency payment which may be made.

Final returns are not yet available for the 1961-62 support year, but it is estimated that the national weighted average market price for the full twelve months will be approximately 33 cents per dozen, or 1 cent less than the support price. I expect to be able to announce the exact amount of the deficiency payment to producers very shortly.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask new members of the house to familiarize themselves with the stabilization act so that the producers of eggs in their areas may be made aware of this support price for the coming year.

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, this is another one of those routine announcements that in actual practice may not mean very much. There have been very few instances when a deficiency payment has been made on eggs, even though the price of eggs in many parts of Canada has been below the stated support price and has been most unsatisfactory.

There are two things that need to be done in order to make this policy effective. The first is to declare that deficiency payments will be made on a quarterly basis so that the accounting will be done every three months. Second, they should be made on a regional basis in order that the producers across this country might have some real support, which is not provided in the announcement which has just been made.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to hear clearly at this end of the house; in fact we are most uncomfortable on occasions. Nevertheless I am always interested in hearing the Minister of Agriculture make a routine announcement sound like a blessing from the government in power.

I can speak from experience when I say that poultry producers in the southeastern portion of British Columbia, the only ones with whose situation I am familiar, have been very concerned about falling prices in recent months. I hope this announcement will mean

[Mr. Hamilton.]

some improvement in their situation, but I am sure it does not meet the needs of those who are looking to the government for stronger action than this.

INTERPRETATION ACT

REVISION AND CONSOLIDATION, WITH
CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Justice) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-48, to revise and consolidate the Interpretation Act and amendments thereto, and to effect certain consequential amendments to the Canada Evidence Act and the Bills of Exchange Act.

Mr. Chevrier: Explain.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The purpose of this bill, which is lengthy, is to revise and consolidate the Interpretation Act. It will be the first general revision and consolidation of this act to be undertaken since confederation.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

**COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT
AND CRIMINAL CODE**

EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM RESPECTING
B.C. FISHING INDUSTRY

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Justice) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-49, to amend an act to amend the Combines Investigation Act and the Criminal Code.

Mr. McIlraith: Explain.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The purpose of this short bill is to extend for another year a measure which has been introduced in previous sessions respecting fishing agreements.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

JUDGES ACT

AMENDMENTS PROVIDING ADDITIONAL JUDGES IN
NOVA SCOTIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution, which has been recommended to the house by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Judges Act to provide for salaries for two additional judges of the supreme court of Nova Scotia, including one chief justice, and for one additional judge of the court of appeal for British Columbia.

Motion agreed to.