

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

(Mr. Gray) to my remarks at page 3794, the second column, the last paragraph on that page. They were in the first three paragraphs on page 3795.

Under the old act, that is the one that is still in force actually until we have royal assent for the new legislation, section 23, as pointed out by the hon. member for Essex West, required that in order to get a contribution from the federal government toward urban redevelopment or renewal projects, a substantial part of the area had to be used for residential purposes, or else had to be used for residential purposes after the urban renewal program had been put into effect. This clause has now been repealed, or at least it will be repealed if and when the new bill, C-102, becomes law.

Under the new legislation it will be possible for the federal government or Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, to make grants to municipalities who request it for the clearing of lands which may be used wholly or partly for residential purposes wholly or partly for commercial and industrial purposes. I point out, however, that while the federal government can contribute its share towards such a project, it cannot lend funds for the building of industrial plants on that prepared land.

TRADE—BEEF—STEPS TO INCREASE
EXPORTS TO GREAT BRITAIN

Mr. C. S. Smallwood (Battle River-Camrose): I shall be brief. When I asked my question of the minister the other day I felt it was important to the economy of Canada as well as to the beef producers of Canada. Since that time I have read that Argentina, one of the world's leading beef producers, has ordered meat rationing and is imposing export controls to ease the beef shortage caused by two years of drought.

In order to be brief, I shall repeat my question to the minister. I should like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in view of this serious shortage of beef, will the minister inform the house what action his department has taken in regard to the export of beef to Great Britain? I ask this question in the interests of the economy of the country and the beef producers. May I have an answer?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): For some months, Mr. Speaker, my department and the Department of Agriculture have been following the developing beef situation in both the United Kingdom and on the continent of Europe. Our trade commissioner in London has been making a special study of the situation and has kept our Canadian packing houses fully apprised of developments. I understand that a number of these firms are now in touch with their agents in the United Kingdom in an effort to develop some sales.

The problem had been, but is now growing smaller, that Canadian prices were somewhat out of line. The spread is now becoming narrower and therefore we are continuing our efforts to sell beef, in the expectation that it will come into line and that we shall be able to supply part of that market. I am unable to say exactly what the spread is at the moment because, of course, there are so many cuts and so many qualities of beef concerned.

I would like to assure the hon. gentleman that, like himself, we have been following the situation very closely and share his concern to enlarge our market for beef overseas.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.24 p.m.