Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

NATIONAL REVENUE

ENFORCEMENT OF MEASURES TO PREVENT DUMPING OF TEXTILES

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Pending the introduction of the new legislation announced by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce last week, can the minister assure Canadians in the textile industry that the officers of his department will more rigidly enforce existing protective measures regarding imports? Will the officers be more severe in the future?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): This is basically a matter for the Minister of National Revenue who enforces customs regulations in this country. I can assure the hon. member that my experience has been that these regulations have been enforced to the full. Where there have been allegations that they have not been enforced, it has often been because individual firms in Canada have not provided evidence of dumping so that the dumping could be investigated by the Department of National Revenue.

POLLUTION

CONTROL OF INDUSTRIES LOCATING IN DESIGNATED AREAS

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It relates to the dangers of industrial pollution. Does an industry moving into a designated area submit a brief or a study in connection with pollution likely to be caused by that particular industry, and ways and means of controlling it? Further, has the department set up a list of criteria which must be met before industries are allowed to locate in designated areas?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): There is no list of criteria. There are varying factors for each industry and each location which would affect the total pollution hazard with respect to any particular undertaking. I am satisfied that through the interdepartmental structure which ensures that all departments have an opportunity to voice their views in a decision as to whether or not to support an industry in a designated area, my department and others concerned with pollution have an opportunity to study the plans in particular applications

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): I would appreciate it if the right hon. member would send me the details so that the particular makes could be identified. I am sure the right hon. member realizes that in many of the provinces, indeed most, there is provincial law dealing with the availability of repair parts for a certain number of years after a particular machine is offered for sale. That does not come within the responsibility of the federal government or my department.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is so, Mr. Speaker, but the fact remains there is no way to enforce it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is why I ask the federal authorities to act—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

COST OF REPAIRING FARM MACHINERY

Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia): I wish to ask a supplementary question. In view of the tremendous number of complaints being received regarding the increase in the price of repairs of farm machinery, when the minister is investigating the prices of new machinery will he also investigate the cost of repairs to see whether it has been increasing at too great a rate?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, that particular question will be the subject of a further and, indeed, the final report of the Barber Commission which has not yet been received.

[Translation]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

QUEBEC—MEASURES TO PROVIDE EMPLOY-MENT FOR LAID-OFF TEXTILE WORKERS

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Is the government aware that since it has announced its new textile policy, hundreds of workers have been laid-off in Sherbrooke and Drummondville and can the government tell the House what it intends to do about the matter?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of the situation, but I shall make inquiries.

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