

Questions

efficiency of the existing types of gear with a view to recommending to the contracting governments the avoidance of any wasteful fishing on the grand banks.

GRAIN—SALES, STORAGE, ETC.

Mr. Wright:

1. What was the amount of each grade and kind of grain purchased by each licensed elevator company operating as agents of the Canadian wheat board at country elevator points in the crop year 1950-51?

2. What was the amount of tough or damp grain in each such grade purchased?

3. (a) What was the date of the cut-off of the 1949-50 crop year; (b) what was the amount of the different grades of grain in storage (including damp and tough grain) at the date of the cut-off of the 1949-50 crop year?

4. (a) What was the amount of each grade and kind of grain sold by each of these companies as designated by their certificates final in the crop year 1950-51; (b) what was the amount of each grade and kind of grain retained in storage as covered by inspectors certificate at time of weigh-over for the 1950-51 crop year?

Mr. Howe: Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of the hon. member the difficulty of answering this question, on account of the tremendous amount of information asked for. To answer the questions would practically mean the tabling of the books of the Canadian wheat board.

The hon. member asked for the amount of each grade, and I would point out to him there are 339 grades. I do not know how many country elevators there are, but there are at least 50,000. Then, he wants a separate report on each grade handled by each of the country elevators, and he asks for other information it would be very difficult to furnish. It would take months to prepare such a return; and then after the information was furnished the hon. member would need to retain a firm of chartered accountants and have them work two or three months to analyse the return. The wheat board has its own auditors; and I suggest the proper way to get the information is to call the board before the committee on agriculture and ask the board for such answers as the hon. member wants. I have no desire to withhold this information; but there is such a staggering amount of information asked, it is difficult to contemplate the answering of it.

Mr. Wright: That is exactly the point. If the minister will undertake to have the board before the committee on agriculture at the next session, then I certainly will drop the question. However, this is a matter of vital interest to the farm organizations of western Canada. They do want the information.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 23 on the order paper, dropped.

[Mr. MacNaught.]

ARMED FORCES—OFFICERS OF FRENCH ORIGIN

Mr. Gauthier (Porineuf):

What were the ranks of the officers of French origin who were in the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force active forces and what are their present ranks?

Mr. Blanchette:

Royal Canadian Navy

Rank in 1939	Rank in 1951
Midshipman	Lieutenant-commander
Midshipman	Lieutenant-commander

Canadian Army

Captain	Colonel
Captain	Major
Captain	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Major-general
Lieutenant	Colonel
Lieutenant	Colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Major
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel

(bandmaster) . . . Captain

Royal Canadian Air Force

Flight lieutenant	Wing commander
Flying officer	Group captain
Flying officer	Wing commander
Pilot officer	Wing commander
Pilot officer	Wing commander

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

SHIP CONSTRUCTION COMMENCED 1950, 1951

Mr. Nowlan:

On how many ships or vessels, other than those for the Department of National Defence has construction been commenced in Canadian shipyards during (a) the calendar year 1950; (b) each month during the year 1951?

INDIANS—MONTHLY RATIONS

Mr. Fulton:

1. What is the scale of monthly rations for Indians on relief as issued by the Indian affairs branch to merchants in Canada, for families or groups of one to six adults respectively, and for the following commodities: flour, rolled oats, baking powder, tea, sugar, lard, beans, rice, cheese, meat or fish, salt, matches?

2. What grade of flour is specified?

3. What are the particulars of any other commodities and quantities which go into this ration scale?

Mr. Harris (Grey-Bruce): Return tabled.