

Inquiries of the Ministry

proposals concerning job security were similarly rejected on January 12 and 13, does the minister plan to seek the services of a federal conciliation board to resolve this dispute?

Mr. Jamieson: I do not know whether it is within my competence to do so but I will be glad to take the question as notice and give an answer as soon as I can.

Mr. Paproski: Would you repeat that answer, please?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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AGRICULTURE**GRASSLAND INCENTIVE PROGRAM—VOLUME OF BEEF IMPORTS FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the recently announced program to increase forage production in the Prairie region, which will give added incentive for beef production, will he tell the House whether the government is undertaking to discuss with New Zealand and Australia a mutual agreement in respect of the volume of future imports of beef from those countries into Canada on a quarterly or yearly basis?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, there has been no discussion respecting the imposition or establishment of quotas. Last summer when we had a great deal of difficulty over this problem there were very satisfactory discussions leading to the supply to this market in Canada of the kind of beef these countries have to sell. I think the trading relations have been very satisfactory since.

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question with regard to this same program announced yesterday. Will the minister give consideration to allotting this money to people who operate cow-calf operations because calves and feeders can be used quite readily in eastern Canada but otherwise with all these programs—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This seems to be an argument rather than a question.

[Translation]

GRASSLAND INCENTIVE PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR SIMILAR GRANTS TO QUEBEC MILK PRODUCERS

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I wish to direct to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. In view of the policy announced yesterday concerning the raising of livestock in the western provinces, I would like to ask the minister whether he is prepared to recommend the payment of similar grants in the prov-

[Mr. Paproski.]

ince of Quebec to milk producers who are in serious difficulty. In my opinion, such a program would be an excellent way of enabling them to re-direct their production.

[English]

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, there are programs in respect of forage production and other adjustments of agriculture that are appropriate to various regions. The hon. member is aware of several programs we have designed that are more particularly applicable to regions other than the grain growing part of the Prairies.

EXPORT OF BROILER CHICKENS—NUMBER OF TENDERS AND PRICE

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether we could return to the subsidized export question directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Can he tell us now who was the successful tenderer, how many tenders were submitted and what was the subsidized price or accepted price—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me at least some of this information should be obtained by way of a written question. Perhaps the first part of the question is in order, but it is my impression that the hon. member gave the reply himself a moment ago. In any event, perhaps the minister might be given the opportunity of replying.

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the successful tenderer was the Poultry Processors Association of Quebec Incorporated, and there were nine tenders received. I can give the hon. member any additional information.

Mr. Horner: What was the volume?

Mr. Olson: The volume was three million pounds.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, since broilers do not come under the price stabilization board or the Agricultural Stabilization Act, will the minister tell us now under which particular government policy this program was prepared?

Mr. Olson: Yes, under the Agricultural Products Board Act.

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As all of these broilers will come from Quebec will the minister give some consideration to obtaining some from Ontario in order to ease the surplus there?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, the tenders were open to processors in all parts of Canada. Quite obviously the successful tenderer was the one who submitted the lowest price.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.