

Order Paper Questions

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RAPSEED**Question No. 2,506—Mr. Nesdoly:**

1. Was the rapeseed market manipulated in June, 1973 and, if so, by whom?
2. Who is making the profit on recent price increases in rapeseed?
3. Who is paying the elevator companies $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents storage per bushel per month on rapeseed held in storage?
4. Are bushels of rapeseed being deliberately held off the market for the sole purpose of collecting storage and, if so, how many?
5. (a) Who owns the rapeseed that the elevator companies buy from the producers (b) who puts up the money for these purchases?
6. (a) What was the export price of rapeseed on June 21, 1973 (b) what price was paid to farmers on that date?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): 1. There is no evidence of any manipulation of the rapeseed market in June, 1973. Rapeseed is bought and sold on the open market on the basis of prices determined through the operation of the cash and futures markets of the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange.

2. The price increases for rapeseed in June were caused by a world shortage of oilseeds and products, lack of fishmeal production in Peru and the placing of export controls on oilseeds and products by the United States and Canada. Producers, exporters and elevator companies had equal opportunities to increase their profits.

3. The major role of the country elevator is to buy rapeseed from the producer, assemble it for shipment to ports of exit and load it into rail cars. The price paid by the elevators is known as the street price. Street prices are established by two committees, one in Calgary and one in Winnipeg, reflecting the fact that rapeseed may be shipped through either Thunder Bay or Vancouver. The street price committees establish the daily street price (the price the producer receives at the country elevator) by assessing various factors influencing the delivery of clean rapeseed from the country to export position: rail car availability, cleaning capacity, estimated delivery date. The time allowed is normally 60 days for Thunder Bay and 90 days for Vancouver. A corresponding futures month is then selected for price determination. An operating margin is calculated, allowing for carrying costs and all the costs involved in moving grain from the country elevator to export position, which is deducted from the futures price to arrive at the street price (price paid to producer). The price for any specific country point is determined by deducting freight using established rates. Therefore, costs are borne indirectly by the producer.

4. The producer could hold back his rapeseed from the market hoping to receive a higher price. Rapeseed is not

[Mr. Reid.]

held by the elevator to collect extra handling and storage charges.

5. (a) When the producer sells to the elevator, the rapeseed becomes the property of the elevator; (b) normal business financing by grain companies purchasing the rapeseed from the producer.

6. (a) The export price on June 21 at Thunder Bay was \$6 per bushel. Price paid to the producer in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan on June 21 was \$5.49½ per bushel. The export price on June 21 in Vancouver was \$6.20 per bushel. The price paid to the producer in west Saskatchewan and Alberta was \$5.68 to \$5.70 per bushel.

DEPLETION OF BLUE WALLEYE FISH**Question No. 2,508—Mr. Jarvis:**

1. Is the Blue Walleye fish extinct and, if not, what would be the estimate of the Department of the Environment of the number of such fish alive in Canadian inland water?
2. Subsequent to the Federal-Provincial Ministerial Conference, January 20 to 24, 1964, what action, policies and programs have been implemented by the government to combat the depletion in numbers of Blue Walleye fish?
3. How does the government determine whether a specific species of fish is increasing or decreasing in numbers, and what action is taken when it is determined that a species is decreasing substantially in numbers thereby creating the possibility of extinction of the species?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): 1 and 2. The Blue Walleye is not extinct but is indeed extremely rare in what was always a very limited area; namely, Lake Erie and the adjacent part of Lake Ontario near the Niagara River. Some of these fish, which are a colour variety of the more common and widespread yellow walleye, are in captivity in hatcheries, in an attempt to preserve them from extinction. The success of this program must, of course, await the test of time. The federal Government is co-operating with the U.S., through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and hence also with the province of Ontario and the Great Lakes states, in a program aimed at rehabilitation of walleye in general in Lake Erie.

3. The usual evidence of increasing or decreasing abundance of fish is through increasing or decreasing catches by either sport or commercial fishermen. The action taken in the case of a large and serious decrease depends upon the cause of the decrease, if this can be found. If the decrease is due to excessive fishery exploitation, the attempted remedy takes the form of fishery regulations as seem most appropriate to the situation. Examples would be, catch quotas, size limits, closed seasons and hatchery procedures. If the cause seems to be environmental, as may be at least partly the case in Lake Erie, the road back could be very long or in some cases impossible.

ISSUANCE OF LICENCES UNDER MIGRATORY BIRDS PROTECTION ACT*Question No. 2,511—Mr. Fairweather:**

1. Is the Minister of the Environment going to issue licences under the provisions of the Migratory Birds Protection Act for the shooting of robins and other migratory birds in New Brunswick?

2. Has the Minister received representations against the issue of such licences?