

North Atlantic Treaty

being asked to pay \$1.35½ per bushel for barley feed when the total payment received by the western barley producer for the 1951 crop was \$1.10¾? Is this price of \$1.35½ per bushel asked by the wheat board uniform right across Canada?

Mr. G. J. McIlraith (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Trade and Commerce): I have had no notice of that question. It is obviously one that cannot be answered off-hand. There are several allegations of fact in the question, and I must assume the statements made are true, but I should like the opportunity of checking before giving any answer.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY**APPROVAL OF PROTOCOL FOR ACCESSION OF GREECE AND TURKEY**

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs) moved:

That it is expedient that the houses of parliament do approve the protocol to the North Atlantic treaty on the accession of Greece and Turkey, signed by Canada at London on October 17, 1951, and that this house do approve the same.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the resolution which you have just read, and which I have the honour to recommend to the house, transfers our discussion from the domestic to the international field, and from the interesting if somewhat contentious questions of resale price maintenance to the equally interesting, but I think possibly less contentious, subject of the membership of Greece and Turkey in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Before dealing with that specific matter, it might be desirable if I made a short statement, not on the general international situation but on the work of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization itself, because that will I believe assist the members in understanding the importance and indeed the meaning of this resolution.

Hon. members will know, of course, that the council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization met a month or so ago in Rome. It was, I believe, the eighth meeting of the council. Some very important questions indeed faced the council at that meeting. Some of these questions had been postponed from the meeting which was held in Ottawa, and some of them were new questions. The main problems which faced us in Rome were as follows: First, we examined, though in no official sense because that work was not completed, the work of the temporary council committee appointed by the council at its Ottawa meeting. This committee had the responsibility of attempting to match the requirements for defence and the resources

of the separate members of the council which could be devoted to that defence, having regard to their political and economic capabilities.

This work of the T.C.C. under the chairmanship of Mr. Harriman, known as the burden-sharing exercise, was not completed; indeed it had not been nearly completed when we met at Rome, and we were not able to deal with it at that time. Since our meeting in Rome, however, the executive committee of this committee of twelve, also popularly known as the three wise men, have made a report on the matter to the full committee.

The committee of twelve met in Paris the other day to consider that report, and will meet again in Paris on January 15 to give further and final consideration to it. The subject will then be referred to the next meeting of the North Atlantic council, which will be held sometime in February, in Lisbon, Portugal. I do not think it would be desirable for me to say anything more at this time about that report, because it has not yet been finally submitted to governments, and no final decision has been taken on it yet by these governments.

Another very important question which faced us in Rome, and will face us again in Lisbon, is the association of Germany with western European and Atlantic defence. It is a matter of vital concern to the defence of peace in western Europe; but one that bristles with difficulties which, I suppose, are better appreciated on the continent of Europe than they are on the continent of North America. This association is now being discussed by the European countries concerned, and it is hoped that it can be brought about by the creation of a European defence force, which would itself be part of General Eisenhower's integrated force for the defence of western Europe under the Atlantic council. Progress is being made in the creation of this European defence force, and we hope that the council at its next meeting will be able to take important and far-reaching decisions regarding it.

Another question which is related to the one I have just mentioned, and which concerns our North Atlantic council, is the progress being made in the replacement of the German occupation statute by a peace contract with the government of the federal republic of Germany. Progress has also been made in this matter, but I think it is obvious to hon. members that a decision must be reached in regard to it before we can reach a final decision in regard to the association of western Germany with western European