

Inquiries of the Ministry

LUNAM CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Mr. Diefenbaker:

1. How many building or repair contracts have been granted to the Lunam Construction Company of Saskatchewan or the Lunam Construction Company Limited, in all departments of government other than public works, since the first of January, 1948?

2. What were the contract prices of each of the said contracts and how much has been paid on account of each of them to the said company?

3. Was work on one or more of said contracts discontinued by the said company before completion, and if so, in respect to which contracts?

4. What did it cost to complete the contracts which were uncompleted by the said company?

5. Were any materials or services unpaid by the said company?

6. If so, what is the total amount of such materials or services on which any of the departments have notice or information?

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

RENOUS, N.B., NAVAL AMMUNITION DEPOT

Mr. Robichaud:

For a return showing a list and the price of all materials and/or supplies purchased for any purpose whatsoever and the amounts paid out for labour in connection therewith, in any way concerning the Renous, New Brunswick, naval ammunition depot, during the year 1951-52 and from the 1st of April, 1952 to and including the 31st day of December, 1952, also a copy of the payrolls in any way concerning the maintenance of the said naval ammunition depot, during the year 1951-52 and from the 1st of April, 1952 to the 31st of December, 1952, inclusive.

He said: I have discussed this notice of motion with the Associate Minister of National Defence, and as the information will be available to me from other sources I now move to withdraw this motion.

Mr. Speaker: Dropped.

FISHERMEN'S FLOATS, COW BAY, B.C.

Mr. Applewhaite:

For a copy of all letters, telegrams and other communications from the 1st day of January, 1951 to date, between the Department of Public Works and the government of the province of British Columbia or any department thereof respecting the proposed transfer of the fishermen's floats at Cow Bay, Prince Rupert, British Columbia, to the government of Canada from the government of British Columbia.

Mr. Fournier (Hull): There is no objection to this motion passing, with the usual reservation that we obtain the consent of the province to the tabling of the document.

Motion agreed to.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

FURTHER RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTATION INTO UNITED STATES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. R. Argue (Assiniboia): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of [Mr. Fulton.]

Trade and Commerce arising out of a news report this morning. Has the United States government placed further restrictions on the importation of Canadian dairy products? If so, is the government prepared to make strong protests to the United States authorities?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Word has reached this department this morning that a complete embargo on the import of dried whole milk, dried buttermilk and dried cream becomes effective April 1. The existing controls on other commodities and products remain unchanged. These include the import embargo on dried skim milk, butter, flaxseed, linseed oil, peanuts, peanut oil and rice. The import quotas on cheddar and other types of cheese remain at the levels already in effect.

In answer to the second part of the question, I would say that the government has forwarded three strongly worded protests, the last within four weeks, and the government will continue to protest as effectively as diplomatic procedure will permit.

WHEAT

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT—INQUIRY AS TO RESULT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Lake Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce in connection with the international wheat conference in Washington. This being the last day of that conference, is the minister in a position to say whether or not he is still hopeful that an agreement is going to be reached?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Well, Mr. Speaker, I just returned to Ottawa this morning. I have tried to get in touch with our representatives at Washington, but I have not been able to do so. I have heard indirectly that the meeting arranged for today has been adjourned for 24 hours. I presume that indicates that the representatives are still hopeful. I do not think I should tell the house whether I am optimistic or pessimistic about an agreement, because I do not think it makes any difference. As soon as a decision is arrived at I shall be glad to communicate it to the house.

COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT

RETAIL TOBACCO TRADE IN VANCOUVER—QUESTION AS TO INVESTIGATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Arthur Laing (Vancouver South): I should like to direct a question to the