

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, March 19, 1964

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONCURRENCE IN FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. John R. Matheson (Leeds) presented the first report of the standing committee on external affairs, and moved that the report be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

THE MINISTRY

RESPONSIBILITY RESPECTING REVENUE DEPARTMENT AND HOUSING ACT

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I should like to inform the house that the President of the Privy Council has assumed temporarily the responsibilities of the Minister of National Revenue, and the Postmaster General has been appointed to be the minister responsible for the direction of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the administration of the National Housing Act.

BROADCASTING

TABLING OF JOINT REPORT RESPECTING COMMUNITY ANTENNAE

[Translation]

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the government received today the report of the board of broadcast governors on community antenna television. I should like to table two French copies and two English copies of that report.

The government immediately undertook a study of the report and, as soon as possible, it will announce its policy on this important matter.

[Text]

[Later:]

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): My question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the recommendations of the board of broadcast governors were tabled today, would the hon. gentleman assure the house that no changes in the regulations under the act will be made before the house has had an opportunity to debate this whole question?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): As my colleague the Secretary of State indicated when he tabled the report, the government intends to give urgent consideration to these recommendations, and I can assure the hon. member that no changes in the existing regulations will be made until they have been communicated to the house in advance, so that all hon. members and everyone else interested may know what is intended.

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): I had a question for the Secretary of State, but since he appears to have been called out of the house I would address it to the Prime Minister. I wonder whether in view of the widespread interest in the subject matter involved, the Prime Minister would agree to asking consent to have the report from the board of broadcast governors which was tabled today by the Secretary of State printed as an appendix to today's *Hansard*?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I would have no objection to doing so if the house would consent to that being done.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the wish of the house that this report be printed as an appendix to *Hansard*?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Editor's Note: For text of document above referred to, see appendix.]

TRADE

CEREALS—NEW ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSED BY U.K.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the British minister of agriculture, Mr. Christopher Soames, tabled in the British House of Commons yesterday a white paper containing details of Britain's proposed new arrangements for cereals. As the house will recall, I have on previous occasions referred to the close consultations which have been maintained with the British government on this matter.

These arrangements are, of course, of major importance to us. Canada, together with the other principal overseas suppliers, has been working out with the British a co-operative agreement designed to further strengthen and promote the mutually advantageous trade in cereals. Agreement has been reached in principle and it is expected that a formal exchange of letters will be effected shortly.