

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Churchill: That is not a directive to anybody.

. . . wheat production might be kept to the average figure of 400 million bushels and the acreage released from wheat growing might be more suitably utilized for fodder crops to support an increased number of livestock.

An hon. Member: The headline writers were right.

Mr. Churchill: The report of the Saskatchewan royal commission suggests that in 25 years a 50 per cent increase of meat production will be required.

Mr. H. R. Argue (Assiniboia): May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Provided it is a question for information and not for comment.

Mr. Argue: Is the minister able to tell the house whether he thinks at this time there should be greater emphasis on the livestock industry, in view of the fact that beef producers in Ontario and eastern Canada are going broke and the hog market has collapsed.

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, I have never suggested that there should be greater emphasis at this time on the livestock industry; my hon. friend knows that very well.

HARBOURS**CORNWALL, ONT.—INQUIRY AS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. P. Lavigne (Stormont): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of Transport. Has the minister received any communications from representatives of the city of Cornwall with regard to the establishing of a harbour commission for that city?

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): I would like to thank the hon. member for his courtesy in advising me of his intention to ask this question. I have received no representations so far from the city of Cornwall for the establishment of such a commission.

FISHERIES**CHEAKAMUS RIVER, B.C.—MAINTENANCE OF WATER FOR SPAWNING PURPOSES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question and it is about fish, not wheat. My question is addressed to the Minister of Fisheries, and I have given him notice.

Has the minister received a joint request from the united fishermen and allied

workers' union, the British Columbia federation of fish and game clubs, the native brotherhood of British Columbia and the fishing vessel owners' association that commitments by the British Columbia Electric Company to maintain a sufficient flow of water for spawning purposes on the Cheakamus river be honoured? If so, what action has been taken to comply with this request?

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Minister of Fisheries): I would like to thank the hon. member for Comox-Alberni for having given me notice of his intention to ask this question. The answer to the first part is yes.

With regard to the second part, as to the action which has been taken, I would advise that when I was in British Columbia recently I discussed this problem with the senior officials of the British Columbia Electric Company Limited and impressed them with the fact that the department would expect the company to maintain a sufficient flow of water below the dam for spawning salmon. Following my return to Ottawa this understanding was confirmed through an exchange of correspondence with the president of the British Columbia Electric Company Limited.

LAMPREY EELS—STATEMENT AS TO USE OF POISONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Minister of Fisheries): I would like to take this opportunity to reply to a question asked on Friday last by the hon. member for Port Arthur. The hon. member asked whether I had any recent information on the effectiveness of poisons and plans to use them against the lamprey eel in inland waters, especially in lake Superior.

This is a rather involved and long answer, Mr. Speaker, and I understood on Friday you suggested that it should be put on the order paper; so might I ask that it be made an order for return.

Mr. Speaker: The Clerk has informed me that the proper method of dealing with the suggestion of the Minister of Fisheries would be for the house to consent to have the answer printed in *Hansard*. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. W. A. Tucker (Rosthern): I understood, Mr. Speaker, that that was the understanding in regard to the question I asked of the Minister of Trade and Commerce; that the answer would be given in the same way.