

## CANADA

# House of Commons Debates

### OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, May 29, 1941.

The house met at three o'clock.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

##### PROCEDURE WITH RESPECT TO PRIVATE BILLS— SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 105

Mr. ALPHONSE FOURNIER (Hull) moved:

That, for the remainder of the session, all private bills from the senate when received from that house, shall be deemed to have been read the first time and ordered for second reading, and that standing order 105 respecting the posting of bills be suspended in relation thereto.

Motion agreed to.

#### WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

##### EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND CANADA—RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON

On the order for motions:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I wish to table herewith copies in English and French of a note of May 28 from the United States minister, and our reply of the same date.

This exchange of notes, which is self-explanatory, has arisen out of the fact that the President of the United States has been obligated, under the United States Agricultural Adjustment Act, to impose a quota restriction on the importation of Canadian wheat. The president's proclamation, issued last night, limits total imports of wheat into the United States during the next twelve months to 800,000 bushels. Of this total, the allocation to Canada is 795,000 bushels. The United States note makes it clear that this import restriction will not affect the movement of Canadian wheat into the United States for milling in bond and export, or Canadian wheat moving through the United States for export.

In its note the United States government intimates that it is proposed to invite the interested governments to resume discussions in Washington, in the near future, on the whole wheat surplus problem. In addition to look-

ing toward the resumption of discussions of the world wheat situation between the wheat producing countries, the United States government propose, in particular, closer collaboration between the Canadian and United States governments with a view to preventing divergencies in our respective wheat programmes and policies, a development which would be in accord with the purposes of the Hyde Park declaration. The Canadian note recognizes the domestic difficulties with which the United States has had to contend, acknowledges its assurance that Canadian export and transit trade will not be affected by the restrictions, and welcomes the United States initiative in proposing joint examination of the world wheat problem and closer cooperation between Canada and the United States in working out their respective wheat programmes and policies.

Mr. E. E. PERLEY (Qu'Appelle): I had a question which I was going to direct to the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. MacKinnon), but the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) rather beat me to it when he announced the international conference which is to be held in Washington. I am sure we were all glad to learn that Canada is to be permitted to supply almost the entire import quota of the United States. There was one sentence in the press release, however, to which the Prime Minister did not refer, in which it was stated that the disclosure of the proposed conference was made in the release of an exchange of notes between the United States and Canada in connection with quota action. Would the minister table the notes which have passed between the two governments in this connection?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I just tabled them.

Mr. PERLEY: I did not understand that the Prime Minister tabled the actual notes which passed between the two governments.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes; that was my purpose in rising. I tabled the notes and made a short statement in explanation.