

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**GRAIN**

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF ADVANCE ON  
FARM-STORED WHEAT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. H. Blackmore (Leithbridge):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, a copy of which I have not sent him. Will the minister cause to be made immediately a most thorough review of the present grain situation to determine whether or not it might be found to be in the best interests of Canada as a whole to make provision for advancing growers an initial payment based upon the estimate of not less than 75 cents per bushel on all wheat adequately and of necessity stored on their farms?

**Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** The subject matter of the question is under the constant study of the government. If and when any decision is made it will be announced in the house.

**CANADA ELECTIONS ACT**

REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL  
COMMITTEE—QUESTION OF ABSENTEE  
VOTE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I should like to direct a question either to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, who used to handle these matters, or to the Secretary of State under whom this question may now come. Will the government consider appointing a special committee to review the elections act with a view to considering the granting of an absentee vote or some other method to prevent the recurrence of last summer's heavy disfranchisement?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Secretary of State):** As this is a question directed to the government, I think it would more properly be directed to the Prime Minister.

**Mr. Knowles:** Then I would be very glad to have the Prime Minister's answer.

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** The Prime Minister's first answer will be that he knows of no heavy disfranchisement last summer. Second, matters concerning amendment of the elections act are usually considered and recommended by the chief electoral officer, and I have no knowledge so far of any recommendations from the chief electoral officer in that regard since the last election.

**Mr. Green:** Is it the same bill as last year?

**Mr. Chevrier:** Yes.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

**PIPE LINES ACT**

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING EXTRA-PROVINCIAL  
PIPE LINES, COMPANY PIPE LINES, ETC.

**Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Transport)** moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 10, to amend the Pipe Lines Act.

**Mr. Green:** Will the minister explain this bill?

**Mr. Chevrier:** Yes. The object of this bill is twofold: first, to give the board of transport commissioners jurisdiction over all companies constructing pipe lines extending into other provinces and extending also beyond the limits of other provinces; and second, to require those companies to obtain from this parliament special letters patent authorizing them to construct and operate such pipe lines either interprovincially or internationally.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

IGOR GOUZENKO—APPEARANCE BEFORE  
UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Have further representations been made by the state department of the United States requesting that Igor Gouzenko be permitted to leave Canada in order to testify before Senator Jenner's United States Senate committee? Is reconsideration being given to the decision of two weeks ago denying Igor Gouzenko the right to proceed to the United States?

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** It is not to my knowledge that any further representations have been made. I will inquire from the Department of External Affairs, but I have had no information of any further representations.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** It is a press dispatch from Washington.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** I know, but there are frequently in newspapers dispatches for which there is no justification in the departmental offices.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I realize that.