

DUTY ON CELLULOSE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. J. YOUNG (Weyburn): Mr. Speaker, I have in my hand a copy of the Canada Gazette dated October 15 in which appears a copy of an order in council dated October 3 under authority of which the duty on regenerated cellulose is increased from free, ten and ten to 20, 30 and 35 per cent. I should like to ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) if this is not a violation of the spirit of section 14 of the agreement?

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): In view of the language of the hon. gentleman I think that this matter can stand as a notice of a question. This relates to the Department of National Revenue and the order was issued in accordance with the revision of an item in the tariff passed by this parliament. The hon. member might take the trouble to look up this matter, but tomorrow I shall make a formal answer to this question.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

On the orders of the day:

Hon. IAN MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Labour (Mr. Gordon) if he can inform the house when he expects to announce the government's policy in dealing with unemployment relief for the coming winter.

Hon. W. A. GORDON (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the government, in conjunction with the provinces and the municipalities has been proceeding since the beginning of the summer with the consideration of measures for unemployment relief. We are continuing the consideration of this matter and I believe that adequate provision will be made during the coming winter for the relief of those unable to take care of themselves. I am confident that no one in this country need worry about being adequately supplied with food, fuel, clothing and shelter.

PURCHASES OF WHEAT FUTURES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. THOMAS F. DONNELLY (Willow Bunch): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Stevens), arising out of an article which appeared in the Manitoba Free Press of October 23. This article states that there is no doubt in the minds of the wheat trade that the Dominion government through its pur-
[Mr. Bennett.]

chases of wheat futures has been a stabilizing force behind the wheat market. Will the minister advise the house if that contention is correct?

Hon. H. H. STEVENS (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Before answering that question I should like to see the article upon which it is based.

Mr. DONNELLY: I shall send the article across to the minister.

WHEAT BONUS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. L. BEAUBIEN (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, in view of the recent slump in the wheat market I should like to ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett), if he is in position to make a statement with regard to the payment of a bonus on wheat.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): The present financial condition of the country will not permit the payment of a wheat bonus for the year 1932.

RUSSIAN OIL SHIPMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I shall take this opportunity to reply to a question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Vancouver Centre (Mr. Mackenzie), in connection with the importation of oil from Russia.

The house will remember that in 1927 there was a termination of relations between Russia and the Dominion government. A short discussion took place in the house with respect to this matter, as reported in Hansard of May 28, 1928, and reference was made thereto on other dates in that year. The custom of the department has been not to make known the names of consignors and consignees of merchandise and at that time there was no prohibition against the importation into this country of oil from Russia. The prohibition applied to coal, wood pulp, pulpwood, lumber and timber of all kinds, asbestos and furs. The prohibition on furs was defined subsequently as applying only to furs partly in a fabricated state. So far as the present importations of oil are concerned, some complaints have been received by the government and investigations have been made and are still being made to determine whether or not the oil in the form and quality in which it was imported constituted a possible violation of the provisions contained in the