

now. The Acting Minister of Agriculture was not in the house at the time. The question will be found at page 5154 of *Hansard*, as follows:

In view of reports appearing in the press, will the Minister of Finance or the acting Minister of Agriculture indicate to the house whether the government has arrived at a policy with respect to the removal of the embargo on cattle shipments to the United States? . . . It concerns the consumers who are paying high prices for beef.

The Minister of Finance said that the question should be directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Accordingly I am directing the question now to the acting Minister of Agriculture, who is in the house. Perhaps he has had a word from the fighting front in Saskatchewan,

Hon. ERNEST BERTRAND (Acting Minister of Agriculture): The question is one of policy which the government itself has to decide, and the hon. gentleman will be advised in due course.

Mr. FLEMING: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question arising out of the minister's answer? Will the house receive an answer to this question before June 24?

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. M. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): May I ask the Prime Minister a question? Is it possible for him to say now whether during this session parliament will be asked to approve the general agreement on tariffs and trade?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I should not like to give a final answer at the moment, but I should think it would be very unlikely that parliament would be asked to do so.

POSTAL SERVICE

AIR MAIL RATES TO YUKON

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GEORGE BLACK (Yukon): I wish to direct a question to the Postmaster General. A few days ago he announced that air mail rates were to be reduced to the ordinary land mail rates—that is, from seven cents an ounce to four cents. I would ask if that applies to mail in Yukon.

Hon. ERNEST BERTRAND (Postmaster General): It does when we are sending our mail by air.

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WHEAT

QUESTIONS AS TO PRICE FOR PRESENT CROP YEAR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. A. CHARLTON (Brant): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of his promise earlier this week that he would make a statement today as to the price of eastern wheat for the present crop year, is he prepared to make that statement now?

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I am not prepared to make a statement today. I hope to be able to do so shortly.

FLAXSEED

MIDDLESEX FLAX COMPANY—CONTRACT WITH FARMERS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I should like to answer a question asked some time ago by the hon. member for Wellington North (Mr. Menary) with regard to certain flax that was sold to the Middlesex Flax Company.

I am informed that the Middlesex Flax Company entered into contracts with certain farmers for the growing of registered and certified flaxseed. The contract price for this flax for seed purposes was different from the commercial price of flax for crushing purposes, which latter has been fixed for the present crop year through the Canadian wheat board. That board's fixed price does not apply to registered and certified seed, which is not marketed through the board.

I am informed also that the quality of some of the seed delivered by growers to the Middlesex Flax Company was below the registered and certified seed standards, and that this flaxseed was delivered by the company in the name of the producers to the wheat board as commercial flax for crushing purposes. The fifty cent bonus has already been paid to these growers.

Mr. LEWIS MENARY (Wellington North): In view of the answer made by the Minister of Trade and Commerce to my question, may I say that last week these men were not paid for their flax. Apparently they cannot get any satisfaction in writing from the company. They were not paid last week end. I do not know whether they were paid this week.

Mr. HOWE: The question whether or not the men were paid depends on whether they