

Inquiries of the Ministry

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the hon. member to send the letter to the commissioner or to the Minister of Justice.

TEXTILES

ALLEGED DUMPING OF TEXTILE AND NYLON GOODS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jean Lesage (Montmagny-L'Islet): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue, of which I have sent him notice. It has been alleged that the considerable reduction in the production of textiles and nylon goods—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the parliamentary assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs would set a good example to the house by asking his questions without introductory comments.

Mr. Lesage: I thank you for your advice, Mr. Speaker, and I shall follow it. I should like to ask the Minister of National Revenue whether the allegations to the effect that there has been some dumping of textiles and nylon goods in Canada are true. If so, has anything been done to prevent such dumping in the future?

An hon. Member: Put it on the order paper.

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Gingues), the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Boivin), and the hon. member for Drummond-Arthabaska (Mr. Cloutier) and others have also spoken to me respecting this matter. From an examination of invoices in the department no evidence has been disclosed up to the present time that imported goods are being offered at prices lower than the fair market value thereof in the United States at the time of shipment. Special instructions have been issued to collectors at some of the larger ports to have the imported goods carefully appraised and the entries taken subject to amendment pending investigation.

Mr. Cruickshank: Is the same attention being paid to the importation at unfair prices of oils to manufacture margarine?

Mr. McCann: The answer to that question is that the same attention is given to all goods which come into this country.

GRAIN

INQUIRY AS TO DUTY-FREE ADMISSION OF COMMERCIAL DRIERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. Ross Thatcher (Moose Jaw): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of

National Revenue or, if he is the wrong one, to the appropriate minister. In view of the unusual quantities of high moisture grain which exist in western Canada this year—

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Thatcher: —has the government considered permitting the temporary entry of commercial grain driers into this country duty free and allowing the purchasers of such equipment some kind of accelerated depreciation?

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue): I thank the hon. member for having given notice of his question. This is a matter which has been brought to my attention within the last few days by other western members. I can only say at the present time that it is being given consideration, and within the next twenty-four or forty-eight hours I will make a more definite statement.

EGGS

INQUIRY AS TO RAISING OF FLOOR PRICE TO PARITY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. William Bryce (Selkirk): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture or his parliamentary assistant. Owing to the decreased production of eggs, has any consideration been given to raising the floor price of eggs to parity under the minister's suggested base period, 1943 to 1945?

Mr. Robert McCubbin (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture): All these questions are given consideration and any announcement will be made at the proper time.

Mr. Bryce: I asked the parliamentary assistant a straight question and I want a straight answer.

Mr. McCubbin: The hon. member for Selkirk can rest assured that this government at all times takes the request of the farmer and the producer into consideration.

Mr. Ferguson: He asked a question.

PRAIRIE FARM ASSISTANCE

REQUEST FOR HELP FOR ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN FARMERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert McCubbin (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture): On Friday last the hon. member for Lethbridge asked that consideration be given to the advisability of making provision through the Prairie Farm Assistance Act to grant assistance to farmers in Alberta and Saskatchewan