

Questions

orders of the day are called and not when questions on the order paper are being dealt with.

AGRICULTURE—STUDY OF PROBLEMS

Mr. Purdy:

Will the necessary action be taken by the government so that during the next session of parliament the problems of general agriculture in Canada may be studied by the committee on agriculture and colonization as well as those of the western grain growers?

Mr. McCubbin: The government will be pleased to give consideration to the suggestion when the standing committees of the house are being set up at the next session of parliament.

WAR VETERANS ALLOWANCES, NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. Lusby:

1. How many (a) veterans; (b) widows; (c) orphans, resident in the province of Nova Scotia, were in receipt of allowances under the War Veterans Allowance Act, 1952, as at March 31, 1954, and as at March 31, 1955?

2. What was the annual liability of allowances for each of the said three classes of beneficiaries at the said dates?

Mr. Bennett:

1 and 2.

No.	31-3-54		31-3-55	
	Annual Liab.	Veterans, Sec. 3	No.	Annual Liab.
2,072	\$1,533,992	2,191	\$1,635,085	
12	6,773	13	7,649	
	Widows			
590	364,813	659	406,852	
	Orphans (accounts)			
12	8,793	13	9,465	
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2,686	\$1,914,371	2,876	\$2,059,051	

LOBSTER CATCH, ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Mr. Balcom:

What has been the total lobster catch for the four Atlantic provinces for the period January 1, to June 30, 1955, in (a) pounds; (b) landed dollar value?

Mr. Pickersgill:

Returns to June 30 are not yet available. Catches and landed values to May 31 in 1954 and 1955 are as follows:

	Landings (in thousands of pounds)		Landed Value (in thousands of dollars)	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
Nova Scotia ..	13,119	13,158	5,110	5,013
New Brunswick	1,757	1,823	505	544
Prince Edward				
Island	3,784	4,763	920	1,207
Quebec	1,239	1,279	319	339
Newfoundland	1,467	1,832	376	466
Total	21,366	22,855	7,230	7,569

[Mr. Speaker.]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

ALLEGED DELAY IN BRINGING DOWN RETURNS TO ORDERS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George A. Drew (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to ask the Prime Minister when we may expect some of the returns ordered tabled which have been standing on the order paper for some considerable time. There are at this time 17 motions which have been passed by the house calling for the return of papers, the earliest of which is December 2, 1953, standing in the name of the hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), calling for the production of Trans-Canada Air Lines correspondence with the United States government in regard to the extension of facilities. Coming to a more recent period, there are orders dated February 9, March 9, April 25 and dates many weeks ago.

I think that, having regard to the fact we may at some time in the not too distant future expect to get back to estimates, it would be appropriate if we knew when these returns might be tabled.

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): I can assure the Leader of the Opposition that instructions are given as soon as the order is made to proceed with diligence to prepare the returns. I must admit that I quite lost sight of the one which goes back to 1953. I will look especially into that to see if there is any special reason for the extraordinary delay because it is not in accord with the general practice nor the instructions that are given to the officials of the several departments with respect to these returns.

GRAIN

INQUIRY AS TO PROSPECTIVE MARKETING CONDITIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. Coldwell (Rosetown-Biggar): May I direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. I should like to ask him if he is still of the opinion he gave the house on February 18 as reported at page 1312 of *Hansard*, that before the crop year ends, any producer who has grain on hand that he wishes to market will have an opportunity to market it. Will that assurance be fulfilled? If not, to what extent will it be left unfulfilled in terms of the quotas for wheat?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): This matter was discussed in the committee on agriculture, and at that time I corrected my former statement to say that there would be certain points in Saskatchewan where there would be undelivered