

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 30, 1956

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

GRAIN

OATS—DIRECT SALES TO EASTERN FEEDERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I wished to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) but in his absence I should like to direct it to his parliamentary assistant. In view of the plentiful supply of feed oats in western Canada and the apparent shortage of this feed in Ontario, would the minister advise whether the government is planning some method by which direct sales can be made at lower prices than that presently prevalent, which is about \$1.05 per bushel?

Mr. Robert McCubbin (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, that matter comes under the Department of Trade and Commerce. I have asked the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) to answer the question.

Mr. J. H. Dickey (Parliamentary Assistant, for the Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the answer is that it is the policy of the Canadian wheat board to move sufficient quantities of grain into position to supply the demand in the domestic market. There is no method, however, whereby the board can make sales at prices lower than those prevailing on the market at the time of purchase.

Direct sales from western producers to eastern feeders can be made under special arrangements with the wheat board. The quantity involved must be within the western producer's delivery quota and the difference between the initial payment and the prevailing selling price must be paid to the board. The selling price of such direct sales would be subject to agreement between the buyer and seller and there is no indication that any saving could be effected by adopting this method.

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

REQUEST FOR AIR CONDITIONING IN CAFETERIA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. George H. Hees (Broadview): Would the Minister of Public Works, Mr. Speaker, see what can be done as soon as possible about putting an air conditioning unit in the parlia-

mentary cafeteria? The heat there is excessive, not only for those who eat in the cafeteria but I would think it would be unbearable for those who work there.

Hon. Robert H. Winters (Minister of Public Works): I will take that as notice, Mr. Speaker.

PRIVILEGE

MR. HOWE, PORT ARTHUR—CORRECTED STATEMENT RESPECTING ORENDA ENGINES

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I am rising very briefly to correct a statement I made that is recorded in *Hansard* for yesterday, May 29. In replying to a question of the hon. member for York West (Mr. Hamilton) regarding the cutback of Orenda Engines Limited, I referred to the F-86 aircraft as "becoming obsolete". In these days of rapid technical advancement in the science of aeronautics and aircraft armament, this statement is commonly applied to almost every military aircraft as it leaves the drawing board. I would, however, like to correct the impression which I may have left that the F-86 aircraft is reaching the stage of obsolescence at any greater rate than any other fighter aircraft now in use, since the opposite is the case. In point of fact, the F-86 Sabre with Orenda engines is recognized as possibly the best day interceptor now in a full operational role. The reduction in the rate of production of Orenda engines at Malton merely represents the fulfilment of current requirements for the Sabre VI, which is still in production at Canadair Limited.

Mr. Dufresne: The minister is completely out of order.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): You are nuts.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): Perhaps so, but this is a question of privilege.

Mr. John B. Hamilton (York West): Since I asked the original question about Orenda engines, perhaps I could ask a supplementary question. Does the government's contract schedule for supplies from Orenda indicate that the men who are being laid off now have a prospect of re-employment as a result of the continued schedule of purchases?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): Orenda is a private enterprise but I would expect that when the new engine gets into production, that is the engine now being designed and developed,