

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. BRACKEN: I understood the Prime Minister to say that tomorrow we would proceed in committee with Bill No. 3.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: No, today.

Mr. BRACKEN: I understood the Prime Minister to say tomorrow as well, and I had previously understood that tomorrow and Thursday were to be given to the speech from the throne.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I am sorry if I did say that. I meant to say that this afternoon we would continue with the emergency measures, on Wednesday and Thursday with the debate on the address, and on Friday take up the emergency measures again. I am now saying that on Friday we may not take up the emergency measures at present being considered, but we shall seek between now and Friday to arrange either to continue the debate on the address or to take up some other emergency measure as may best suit the convenience of the house.

Mr. ADAMSON: I understood the Prime Minister to say that it was the intention to proceed with a measure of the Minister of Finance on Friday instead of going back to the speech from the throne. Is it the intention of the minister to proceed with the gold measure, or some other matter?

Mr. ABBOTT: I had not given special consideration to that, Mr. Speaker. The measure to assist the gold mining industry is on the order paper and it could be proceeded with at any time. It is not as urgent as some of the others, but perhaps we can give the question consideration between now and Friday.

SUGAR BEETS

REQUEST FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF 1948 PRICE INCREASE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): I desire to direct a question to the Minister of Finance, based upon a newspaper report of January 12, 1948. The report states that on January 12 was announced the 1948 increase in price for tomatoes, peas for canning, sweet corn and green beans, crops which compete with sugar beets in the labour market. In the light of these facts, will the minister tell the house when he will make known what increase the government will render possible to producers in the price per ton of beets for sugar making in 1948?

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of Finance): The hon. member for Lethbridge was good enough to give me notice of the question and I can best answer it by repeating

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

the last paragraph of the statement I made on November 3, 1947, when sugar rationing was abandoned. The paragraph reads:

The government does not propose to subsidize the production of sugar beets in 1948, nor does it propose to sell imported cane sugar on a subsidized basis. Beet sugar may therefore be expected to sell at prices in line with average laid down duty paid costs of imported cane sugar.

PRAIRIE FARM REHABILITATION

INQUIRY AS TO PRINTING OF ANNUAL REPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. D. FULTON (Kamloops): The Minister of Agriculture has tabled a copy of the report of the administration of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act. Is it intended to have that report printed, and if so, will it be available for distribution to members? If that was not contemplated, will the minister arrange to have the report printed?

Right Hon. J. G. GARDINER (Minister of Agriculture): I will inquire into the matter. I am not certain whether it will be printed or not, but I will look into it.

FLAXSEED—CATTLE

REQUEST FOR ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ASKED ON FEBRUARY 9

On the orders of the day:

Mr. LEWIS MENARY (Wellington North): Through you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce, or, in his absence, his parliamentary assistant, to take notice of my questions of yesterday, page 986 of *Hansard*, relating to flaxseed and cattle, and answer them.

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Trade and Commerce): My parliamentary assistant advises me that the statement in answer to the question is not ready. It will be given tomorrow or as soon as it comes to hand.

WHEAT

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES FOR 1945 AND 1946 CROPS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. DIEFENBAKER (Lake Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Is he in a position to advise when participation certificates covering the 1945 and 1946 crops will be paid?

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Trade and Commerce): My hon. friend is aware that no increase in the initial pay-