

Questions

Pension Commission will deal with the case of the widow of Airman Edward E. Chambers as soon as her advocate indicates that the case is ready for presentation.

With respect to other cases, the Canadian Pension Commission is always ready to entertain applications submitted in accordance with the provisions of the Pension Act.

FREE SHIPMENT OF TEXT BOOKS TO UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Question No. 774—Mr. Hopkins:

1. Has any consideration been given to arrange that text books and related reading materials (used or otherwise) be shipped postage free to underdeveloped countries?
2. If so, when will this come into effect?
3. If not, would the government consider adopting such a measure?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General):

1. Exchange of mail between countries is governed by the provisions of the Convention of the Universal Postal Union which do not provide for free postage for text books and related reading materials. Such materials mailed in Canada for destinations abroad may benefit from the special arrangement provided by the convention for transmission in bulk at a rate of postage calculated on the bulk weight.

2. Not applicable.

3. Unilateral action is not possible under the abovementioned convention.

RESEARCH INTO AIR POLLUTION AND CANCER

Question No. 781—Mr. Fawcett:

Has research shown that air pollutions caused by fumes from industrial plants, cars, asphalt dust, etc., are contributing factors to lung cancer and, if so, has the Department of National Health and Welfare instituted a program of research to study this grave problem with a view toward implementing some corrective measures?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): It has been well established that a significant relationship exists between the incidence of lung cancer and long term exposure to pollutants in certain industrial environments as well as what may collectively be called urban pollution. The Occupational Health Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare is carrying out a research program related to aspects of this matter.

[Mr. Teillet.]

CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Question No. 787—Mr. Horner (Acadia):

1. How much money has been paid out by the federal government to Ontario and Quebec farmers under the crop loss assistance program?
2. When did the payments start and what will the closing-off date of the payments be?
3. What was the average price for feed grains at local feed mills in Ontario and Quebec before the subsidy rate took effect and the average rate now for feed grains after the subsidy has been in effect for some months?
4. What was the average rate per ton for hay before the subsidy was announced and what is the average price for hay now that the subsidy has been in effect for a number of months?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture):

1 and 2. Federal government payments under the 1965 feed assistance program are made as reimbursement to the provinces. The provinces issued redeemable coupons to eligible farmers. As the provinces redeem these coupons used by farmers in the purchase of hay and eligible feeds, claims are made on the federal government for reimbursement.

Coupons were issued in Ontario starting about October 1, 1965 and in Quebec starting about January 1, 1966. No claims for reimbursement have yet been received from Quebec and reimbursement totalling \$190,000 has been made against claims received from Ontario.

Coupons are eligible for use in Ontario on hay purchased and delivered in the period commencing May 16, 1965 and ending May 15, 1966 and on other eligible feeds purchased and delivered in the period commencing July 16, 1965 and ending May 15, 1966.

In Quebec coupons are eligible for use on hay and other eligible feeds purchased and delivered in the period commencing July 1, 1965 and ending May 30, 1966.

3. Average retail prices, per 100 pounds, delivered (bags included)*:

	Ontario		Quebec	
	Aug. 1, 1965	Jan. 1, 1966	Aug. 1, 1965	Jan. 1, 1966
Corn, cracked	\$3.65	\$3.65	\$3.89	\$3.84
Oats, unground	3.10	3.17	3.14	3.23
Barley, ground	3.30	3.41	3.34	3.41
Wheat, unground	3.64	3.65	3.72	3.71

*Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics.