

*Wheat Export Prices*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Order, please.

[Translation]

Order, please. In my view, the hon. member's remarks have nothing to do with the Standing Orders.

[English]

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Does the hon. member feel better now?

**Mr. Boulanger:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member should not say things like that.

[Translation]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Order, please. I suggest that the hon. member's remarks have nothing to do with the Standing Orders.

[English]

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** Mr. Speaker, I sympathize with the frustration of the hon. member who raised a point of order a moment ago in not being able to participate in the debate. Ordinarily I would gladly forego my opportunity to speak, if he could be given the floor. The hour is getting late and, as the hon. member who raised the point of order said, not as many attend here as attended earlier in the day.

**Mr. Paproski:** Liberal members are staying only because they have been told to.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** I am speaking at slightly after eleven o'clock this evening, Mr. Speaker, because this is the only opportunity we shall have to speak on the matter which is most important, not only for the prairie grain farmers but, for the entire economy of Canada.

**Mr. Gibson:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** I appreciate the applause coming from that agricultural expert, the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth (Mr. Gibson). He has been most vociferous in this debate and I hope he will make some formal comments before we finish.

I was in the west last week in response to a growing chorus of protest that has come to me from farmers in my constituency. Last week the Prime Minister was also in western Canada. I am sure that the strength of the protest greeting him made manifest to the

[Mr. Boulanger.]

Prime Minister—especially when representatives of prairie grain producers confronted him—that we are faced with a fundamental, critical, economic problem in Canada even though it is obvious, after listening to comments from the other side of the house, that hon. members over there are not yet convinced that the situation requires immediate and urgent action. I was amazed, as the *Winnipeg Free Press* so aptly put it last Saturday that in taking this pilgrimage to the west the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) was going on a voyage of exploration and discovery to find out what makes things tick in western Canada. It was shocking to realize that after having been in office for one year, the Prime Minister for the first time was going west to discover what western Canada is all about.

It seems I have been under the wrong impression. I had thought that the Prime Minister's lack of information and resultant lack of action in dealing with the situation had been due to the fact that the regional advisers had taken the place of the elected representatives in his own party from the western part of Canada. After listening to some hon. members from the other side of this house, particularly the hon. member for Calgary South (Mr. Mahoney) who comes from a western province, I have come to the conclusion that the fault is not with the representatives in the regional desks, but with the failure of some western M.P.'s sitting on the government side of the house to correctly interpret the situation to the government.

The hon. member in a carefully prepared and well read speech obviously was acting as an apologist, trying to explain away this critical economic problem. I heard other members, not in formal speeches, commenting that the situation arises from an uncontrollable world situation, world economic agriculture problems and world surplus. That seems to be the excuse for failure of the government to act on a matter that has been brought in dramatic terms repeatedly before the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin), the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) and the balance of the cabinet.

I have a stack of formal briefs on my desk, some of which date back to last April. I quote from a brief presented by the Manitoba Farm