

I have suggested that both ministers should make their statements, that we should advance all measures at least to first reading, and have any general discussion at that stage. If that is agreeable, I am sure our group would be willing so to proceed. I should like to hear a statement from each minister, so that in the discussion there will be no overlapping and repetition. It might all very well be done at one and the same time.

Mr. COLDWELL: I can assure the hon. member for Qu'Appelle we have given our assurance to the minister that the procedure he has suggested is satisfactory to us. I believe that is the best way to proceed.

Mr. BLACKMORE: Our group hold the same view. We are very anxious to hear the government's policy at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): The arrangement is that both ministers shall make their statements to-day?

Mr. GARDINER: No, that we make our statements on first reading.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): If that is understood, I am agreeable.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): May we have some information from the government as to how soon the ministers will be in a position to make their statements? We are perfectly willing to follow this procedure, but the minister must know that we are receiving letters from all parts of Saskatchewan which indicate that matters are in a serious condition, and feeling is running high. This resolution has been on the order paper about a week. We would like to know particularly when the Minister of Trade and Commerce will make his statement.

Mr. GARDINER: There is a resolution which has been advanced one stage, and in connection with which a bill will be introduced by the Minister of Trade and Commerce. So long as consent of the house is given to a change being made in the wording, so as to advance matters to-morrow, it will be possible to bring in the statements on Monday. If these resolutions can be advanced to-day and to-morrow, then those statements can be made by both ministers on Monday, and we can proceed from that point.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I want to understand the situation. Apparently all parties are in agreement, and the hon. member for Qu'Appelle is of the same opinion. He wishes to see the bills, and to have statements from the ministers. The usual practice is for

a minister to make a statement in the resolution stage, and personally I do not see any reason to depart from that procedure. But if my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle is satisfied, I am.

Mr. GARDINER: I believe what the hon. member for Qu'Appelle says is true, namely that it is difficult to discuss one without the other. One would have to ask questions with respect to one bill before he could make a decision with respect to the others. The suggestion is made that we have all bills before hon. members before we start, so that we may read them.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): And hear the ministers' statements.

Mr. GARDINER: Yes.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Vien in the chair.

Resolution reported.

Mr. SPEAKER: When shall the report be received?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): It is understood that the ministers will make their statements on the first readings, and that they will be made on the same day—on Monday.

Mr. GARDINER: Yes.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would call the attention of hon. members to the fact that when a bill is read the first time there is no debate.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That is just the point; that is the whole thing. We are departing from the rule. Let us stick to the rules; what are they there for?

Mr. TUCKER: By consent.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): It is an impossible position.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): May I point out to my hon. friend that it is quite usual for ministers to explain the principle on the first reading and then the bill can be turned over for debate on the second reading.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That is very helpful.

Resolution read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Gardiner thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 12, respecting wheat acreage reduction.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.