

governments of the various provinces with respect to the setting up of a royal commission on crime which has been the subject of an exchange between the Prime Minister and myself?

**Mr. Matheson:** It does not.

● (4:00 p.m.)

**Mr. Nielsen:** Would there be any objection to tabling that exchange?

**Mr. Matheson:** That is a different subject.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the parliamentary secretary have leave to table the said correspondence?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Minister of Trade and Commerce.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Well, before that passes, I think all hon. members must give their consent.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** It was given.

**Mr. Nielsen:** It was not given at all. The subject which was the exchange between the Prime Minister and the members on this side recalls that he did give the house his assurance—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. There should be no debate. There is either consent or not. Is there consent to the tabling of this correspondence?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Nielsen:** I understood there was going to be included that exchange with the Prime Minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member knows that under the rules there can be no debate on a request of this kind. The hon. member, however, has every right to object to the tabling of the correspondence if he wishes to do that. Is there agreement?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

### GRAIN

#### WHEAT—PROTOCOL EXTENDING OPERATION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

**Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to advise hon. members that on April 28 our chargé d'affaires in Washington signed, on

#### *International Wheat Agreement*

behalf of the government of Canada, a protocol extending the current international wheat agreement, without amendment, for a further year to July 31, 1967. The International Wheat Council agreed at its session last November to recommend to member governments the second one year extension of the agreement in view of the continuing negotiations in the Kennedy round for comprehensive arrangements covering cereals generally.

**Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle):** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order please. It is difficult for the Chair to determine whether the minister was merely making a statement. If he made a statement, then spokesmen for parties in opposition have a right, according to our rules, to make comments. I could not follow the minister's words too clearly and I am just wondering whether he was simply tabling documents or making a statement.

**Mr. Winters:** Mr. Speaker, I was just informing the house of the signing of a protocol.

**Mr. Hamilton:** Mr. Speaker, the announcement by the minister may sound a very routine one but I would like to point out to the house that it affects the movement of over 2 billion bushels of wheat, worth between \$3 billion and \$4 billion in world trade, into world markets. It affects the livelihood of hundreds of thousands of producers in Australia, Canada, the United States, Argentina and France.

This is the second time we have extended this international wheat agreement and I would like to point out very clearly that, for two or three very good reasons, the time has come not to give any more extensions. At the meeting in November, 1961 the United States held up the signing of the international wheat agreement for many weeks, and it was only with the strong support of all other producing nations, coupled with the support of farm organizations in the United States, that we were able to get the United States government to agree to increase the floor and ceiling price by 12½ cents at that time.

The agreement came up for renewal two years ago, and instead of renewing it, as it should have been done for a three year period, it was agreed each time since to extend it for one year. The prices of the things the farmers must purchase in Australia, Argentina, the United States, France