

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, speaking subject to confirmation after I make sure, I was informed that Churchill is a delivery point under the wheat agreement. I am quite sure I was advised of that about six weeks ago. However, if that is not so I will inform the hon. member.

**Mr. Wright:** Can the minister say what the price of wheat will be at that port, as compared with Port Arthur and Fort William?

**Mr. Howe:** I shall have to secure that information and answer at another time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

## PROCEDURE IN ASKING QUESTIONS ON THE ORDERS OF THE DAY

**Mr. Speaker:** I have noted that some of the questions asked today on the orders of the day have been lengthy. Perhaps I might remind hon. members of the stand taken by my predecessor, that questions on the orders of the day should be brief and to the point; that hon. members should seek information rather than give it, and that there should be no debate.

## REFERENCE TO REPORT IN KINGSTON "WHIG-STANDARD" OF MARCH 21

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. John M. James (Durham):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I should like to call the attention of the house to what I consider a very serious matter. Apparently there are others in the house who believe as I do about it.

My question concerns a report which appears in the Kingston *Whig-Standard* of Tuesday, March 21, and refers to a speech made by the hon. member for Nanaimo (Mr. Pearkes). Let me say that I have the greatest respect for the hon. member and I regret that in this instance he has fallen from grace, and also that he has adopted an attitude which I am sure—

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker—

**Some hon. Members:** Sit down.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. member for Durham has a question of privilege, he should state it.

**Mr. James:** I shall begin by reading the article as it appears in the Kingston *Whig-Standard*, and I believe as I go along the question of privilege will become clear. The article is headed "Canada nears one-party state, is charge of General Pearkes here".

**Mr. Speaker:** That does not suggest to me a question of privilege.

**Mr. James:** There is one paragraph further down in the article which, I think, will suggest a question of privilege to every member of the house. It reads:

Certain members of the Liberal party are calling today for the elimination of all opposition.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Graydon:** They always are.

**Mr. James:** That is an inaccuracy which must be brought to the attention of the house.

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. When the Speaker rises the hon. member should resume his seat. I would say, with respect to the last sentence to which the hon. member has referred, that members of the opposition have the privilege of making that statement at any time they may wish. I am not, of course, offering any opinion as to the accuracy or otherwise of the statement. I doubt however if it involves any question of privilege.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** I must maintain order in the chamber. From what has been read thus far I doubt whether it amounts to a question of privilege affecting hon. members of the house and for that reason I do not think I should allow the hon. member to continue at this time. However, if he would like to show the article to me I will decide whether it is one on which a question of privilege might be raised, and, if I so decided, I could allow him to proceed at a later time. At the moment I do not think he should proceed.

## INQUIRY AS TO TABLING OF STATUTORY REPORTS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he has yet been able to make the inquiries he said he would make, in answer to my question of March 14, having to do with whether or not all reports the tabling of which is required by law have yet been tabled this session.

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** I have been able to make the inquiries, but I have not yet been able to get the answers.

## IRRIGATION

## ST. MARY-MILK RIVER PROJECT—AGREEMENT BETWEEN DOMINION AND PROVINCES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. D. Wylie (Medicine Hat):** I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that the