

brought to the attention of the government and all Members of Parliament, which emphasizes the hardships being experienced. Second, it is alarming to note that at present the maximum allowable income for single and married war veterans falls far below the accepted poverty line as laid down by the Economic Council of Canada.

• (11:30 a.m.)

While it is realized that the government is reviewing the whole area of social legislation and while it is recognized on this side of the House that there is need to combat inflation, it must be considered of urgent concern that many veterans are reaching that age in life when immediate attention must be given to their needs and to the steadily increasing hardships caused to veterans due to rising costs and the effect on the living conditions of those citizens who are limited in their ability to earn for themselves due to service to our country.

Mr. Speaker: This is the type of motion which requires the unanimous agreement of the House. Is there unanimous agreement?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous agreement. Therefore it is not possible for the Chair to put the motion at this time.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

LABOUR RELATIONS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ACTION TO REOPEN WEST COAST PORTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Labour who I had hoped would be here in view of the apparently deteriorating situation at some of the west coast ports, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether the government has yet reached any decision concerning what action can be taken to reopen the ports or to ensure that the ports will open shortly so that the produce of the country can continue to move into export markets?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have already discussed this matter and have made a decision. Any further action will be announced in due course.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary, please. In view of the fact that we in Parliament seem to be continually faced with these problems which affect the nation's exports, I should like to ask when the government will bring in legislation to bring about a better relationship between management and labour so that our exports can be kept moving to the markets of the world?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Regina East.

GRAIN

WHEAT—STATEMENT RESPECTING REDUCED PRODUCTION—FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO FARMERS

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Was the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board expressing government policy when he indicated in London that prairie farmers will probably be advised to reduce wheat production in the next crop year? Also, is the government contemplating financial incentives for farmers who switch to alternate crops or increase their summerfallow acreage?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have not verified what the minister said in London. As to the second part of the question, the minister answered that question in the House last week.

Mr. Burton: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Is the government considering a price guarantee based on the International Grains Arrangement minimum or some other suitable basis if a limitation on crop production is introduced or encouraged? Is a similar guarantee contemplated for the 1968-69 final crop payment or for the current crop year?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is making various suggestions. Last week he made such suggestions and the minister told him he would announce his policy in due course.

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Finance. In view of the reported statement in London of the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Wheat Board to the effect that farmers may have to leave their wheat land idle this year in order to reduce the grain surplus, has any decision been reached by the