

other reports that have come to me. I thought it would save time, when the war appropriation is under discussion, if we could have the information asked for in the motion.

Mr. RALSTON: It would save time if the hon. member would have a word with me. These documents are not made the subject of a return.

Motion dropped.

GRAIN POLICY

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MARKETING PROPOSALS FOR 1943 CROP YEAR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. E. PERLEY (Qu'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of the substantial increases which have taken place in the prices of wheat and oats on the Chicago market since the quota restrictions were removed, prices having reached the highest in fifteen years, will the minister reconsider his marketing policy for 1943 and take into consideration increasing the price to the Canadian producer, and increasing also the quota to be delivered in order to put the Canadian producer on a fairer basis with the United States producer?

I would ask another question while I am on my feet.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Put it on the order paper.

Mr. PERLEY: It is not a question for the order paper. This question is based on a report from Winnipeg, dated March 7, Sunday, to the effect that the Winnipeg market made quite an advance on Saturday last, a three-cent rise since Thursday. The report states that 15,000,000 bushels were sold in three days on the Winnipeg market, chiefly to United States houses. Will the minister state under what conditions this wheat is being sold to Americans and whether it will interfere with the export of our wheat board wheat? Also, will the minister in the next day or two—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. PERLEY:—make a statement with respect to sales of Canadian wheat of the 1942 crop, and generally with respect to his marketing policy?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): The hon. member should give notice.

Hon. J. A. MacKINNON (Minister of Trade and Commerce): The hon. member has covered a very wide range in the various questions he has asked. The answer to the first

question or two is that the subject of the inquiry is a matter of government policy and will be dealt with and announced in due course. I may add that the matters referred to by the hon. member have received and are receiving the earnest and careful attention of all those especially interested in the handling of our wheat and coarse grain crops.

There has been an unexpected and very much appreciated rise in the price of wheat on the Winnipeg grain exchange. Over the past few days the price advanced several cents, this being caused by purchases of our wheat in the United States. As a matter of fact the wheat board have been called in for consultation with the wheat subcommittee of the cabinet, and the whole matter is receiving very careful attention.

Transportation difficulties, both present and prospective, are of very great concern to us as affecting the government's wheat policy for this year.

Mr. PERLEY: Will the minister make a statement to the house in a day or two?

FLAX PRODUCTION

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AS TO SITUATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. H. BENCE (Saskatoon City): In view of the reported statement on March 3 of L. H. Lehberg, technical adviser to the federal oils and fats administration, that United States crushers were in the market for Canadian flax; in view of a press dispatch from Ottawa in the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix* of March 1 that a campaign to increase flax acreage by one million acres would be launched; in view of the fact that a question of mine was answered by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) on March 4—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Question.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I ask the hon. member to put his question as briefly as possible.

Mr. BENCE: I have practically finished. I am trying to demonstrate the importance of the question.

Mr. RALSTON: There is no "whereas" to a question.

Mr. BENCE:—in view of the fact that a question of mine was answered by the Minister of Finance on March 4 that the flax crushing capacity of all the plants on the north American continent exceeded the anticipated total of the crop grown on the continent in