

Inquiries of the Ministry

custom in this house to report on sales of wheat.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I see quite a few hon. members rising to ask supplementaries on this question. I wonder whether all should be recognized, because we are running short of time. Perhaps the hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski), who raised the matter originally, might be allowed a supplementary question.

WHEAT—SALES TO JAPAN

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, the minister's reply to my question indicated that he had just returned from a visit to Japan. We notice that he inspected some fish during that visit; but I wonder whether, for the benefit of the wheat farmers, he could indicate if there have been any sales of wheat in that area.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Brant (Mr. Brown).

Mr. J. E. Brown (Brant): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question—

Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk): On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I understand that the hon. member for Selkirk is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. Schreyer: My question of privilege is this, Mr. Speaker. The matter raised by the hon. member for Mackenzie is vital and urgent. Inasmuch as no member of this party, representative as we are of several hundreds of thousands of wheat producers in western Canada, has had an opportunity to ask a question on this subject, perhaps Your Honour would allow one further supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The point is perhaps well taken. As the hon. member for Selkirk and a few other hon. members, I understand, are anxious to speak on this question, perhaps I might allow a few supplementary questions after the hon. member for Brant has asked his question.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

PLEA FOR SIMPLICITY IN LANGUAGE OF AMENDING MEASURE

Mr. J. E. Brown (Brant): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern [Mr. Lang.]

Development. Would the minister advise the house as to whether the government will make sure that the new Indian Act will be drafted in simple, basic English and French, and not in legalistic terms, so that all Indians in Canada may comprehend it without difficulty?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): I can assure the hon. member that the new policy which will make Indians of Canada equal citizens in this country will be very clear and simple.

GRAIN

WHEAT—MINIMUM GUARANTEED PRICE

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Agriculture. Is he in a position to indicate to the house what action the government proposes to take in terms of establishing a minimum guaranteed price for wheat in order to meet the present marketing situation?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): The hon. member is well aware of the price ranges that are spelled out in the International Grains Arrangement, and I am sure he is also well aware of the fact that the Canadian government is playing a very positive role in attempting to encourage the countries of the world to respect the terms of that agreement.

Mr. Gleave: I have a supplementary question for the minister. In view of the fact that the prices are not being maintained at the minimum level specified in the International Grains Arrangement, will the government establish a minimum price for the farmer, so that he knows what his income will be?

Mr. Olson: It is the hope of the government that the minimum price range within the I.G.A. will be respected.

WHEAT—SUPPORT PRICE AND TWO PRICE SYSTEM

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the Minister of Agriculture whether, in his desire to have specifics on the two price system, and in view of the briefs presented by the premier of Saskatchewan on behalf of that government and of the briefs of the Saskatchewan wheat pool and of the government of Alberta, he would now advance the proposal to his colleagues that sufficient specifics are available for the