Inquiries of the Ministry WATER RESOURCES

GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION PROGRAM DAMS— FEDERAL SHARE OF COST

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Can the minister advise the House what percentage of the cost of the dams which are to be built under the Grand River conservation program will be borne by the federal government?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Under the new Canada Water Act the percentage is not set out under the legislation. It will be a figure negotiated by the federal government and the province concerned.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

POSSIBLE WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS—ASCERTAINING OF VIEWS OF PROVINCES AND GENERAL PUBLIC

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. Perhaps he could take it as notice. Could the hon, gentleman ascertain, and report to the House tomorrow either on motions or during the question period, what plans the government has to elicit a response from the general public and the provinces concerning the contingency plan the government has in mind in connection with wage and price controls in order that it will not be sprung on the Canadian people in view of the very great concern today about over-involvement of government in the economy?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker. I do not think it would be appropriate to hold consultations of that kind at this time. The provinces could, of course, at any time, if they wished, establish price or wage controls. They have the constitutional right to do so. The federal government can only operate in this field, I should think, during periods of some emergency. I therefore do not believe consultations of the kind suggested would be appropriate.

Mr. Lundrigan: Have the provinces been advised of the option, with any suggestion that they should impose price and wage controls?

Mr. Sharp: The provinces are very well aware of their constitutional authority.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

FAILURE TO HIRE SASKATCHEWAN WELDERS FOR PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN PROVINCE

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker. It is based on the practice of hiring pipeline welders in Edmonton or Winnipeg only for a Trans-Canada construction job in Saskatchewan, a practice which effectively prevents the hiring of welders from Saskatchewan. Would the minister investigate such hiring procedures and determine whether Saskatchewan welders are not entitled to a fair chance of such job opportunities?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): I am not sure if this is a question I can answer adequately. Perhaps it should be directed to the Minister of Manpower. But it seems very likely to be a problem coming within provincial jurisdiction since it concerns hiring arrangements.

Mr. Skoberg: Could I ask the Minister of Manpower if he has any indication whether any Saskatchewan welders could be hired for work on this project?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

• (3:00 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD ACT

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING DETERMINATION OF PAY-MENT FOR WHEAT—EXTENSION OF APPLICATION TO FLAXSEED, RYE AND RAPESEED

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration) moved that Bill C-238, an Act to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

He said: The bill before us contains a number of items designed to take account of certain changes and special situations affecting the grains industry.

The Canadian Wheat Board is, of course, experiencing a very successful year in sales and in the movement of grain to export markets with the co-operation of all sectors of the agricultural community. Sales figures are extremely heartening after several years of difficulty. largely as a result of the world market situation. Trade was reduced and the exports of many countries were affected. Special difficulty attached to Canadian grain exports, particularly of wheat, because of the desire on the part of the Wheat Board, in full consultation with the producers of western Canada, to lend stability to the international market in the hope that the International Grains Arrangement now coming to an end would be ratified and would be fully effective. In the end, this attempt to secure this objective, one in which we very strongly believed, came to nought, and it was necessary for the Wheat Board to move vigorously in competition with our fellow exporters to obtain a greater share of the world wheat market, as well as to gain a share of the course grains market larger than we had enjoyed previously. These attempts are now proving successful and we see our grain exports achieving levels which tend to show promise of a record year in terms of total bushels of grain exported.

The changes proposed in the bill have to do with a number of special issues arising from developments which have been necessary to keep our grain competitive and our system operating as effectively as possible. We have, of course, seen changes in the Canada Grains Act which permits Canadian wheat to be sold in markets abroad on a protein graded basis. These resulted in the