

under the current international wheat agreement. The minimum price f.o.b. Vancouver would be \$2.03½ and the maximum would be \$2.46½.

Mr. Douglas: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the 21 cent increase, which the minister mentioned, over the price established some six years ago represents less than the increased cost to produce a bushel of wheat during those six years, has the government given consideration to supplementing the return to the farmer or is the farmer to take the loss?

Mr. Winters: Mr. Speaker, as I am sure the hon. member knows, these are simply minima and maxima within which the world price can and does fluctuate. The world price still is determined largely by supply and demand, having regard of course to the maximum and minimum referred to here.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Trade and Commerce say whether the government is giving consideration now to restoring the 17 cents a bushel which was taken away in the price two years ago, and which has caused a loss to the western farmers of \$90 million a year since?

Mr. Winters: Mr. Speaker, that amount was substantially restored by the payments made last year to the western wheat growers.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Surely the minister is not saying that the payments made to the western farmers last year had anything to do with the 17 cents per bushel which was taken away from them. Surely the minister is not that serious.

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister whether he does not think he should await the return of the Minister of Agriculture before he attempts to gauge the benefits which might accrue to the producers.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce another supplementary question. Will Canada be making a financial contribution to the 4½ million tons of wheat which will be set aside for the needy countries and financed by the western industrial nations, and if so on what basis?

Mr. Winters: Mr. Speaker, that is one of the items which has not yet finally been determined. I hope later today, however, that I will be able to include that in a statement to the house.

Inquiries of the Ministry

TRADE

ENTRY OF CANADIAN CEREALS INTO
EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in view of Britain's application to enter the European common market and having in mind the position in respect of Canadian wheat entering the British market, whether there has been any additional progress made in so far as cereals entering the European economic community are concerned.

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): No, Mr. Speaker. The negotiations were separate from anything which might be contingent upon the British entry into the common market.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN
FORCES FROM NATO AND NORAD

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence whether it is the intention of the government to withdraw Canada's forces from NATO and from NORAD, as has been advocated by the President of the Privy Council in a policy speech he made last Friday.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): No, Mr. Speaker, it is not. The policy remains that which was stated on behalf of the government by the Secretary of State for External Affairs when he addressed the house earlier this year.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): How are we to know what the policy is when one minister says one thing, the Secretary of State for External Affairs says another, and the President of the Privy Council says another?

Mr. Speaker: That is a very interesting question, but it appears, at least, to be argumentative.

Mr. Churchill: The answer would be interesting, too.

Mr. Diefenbaker: It may appear to be argumentative, but I am seeking information because it is difficult to know what the policy is when so many speakers say different things.