

space, less working space, in western country elevators for the receipt of the new crop. Apart from a few persistently troublesome districts, it has been possible to advance quotas rapidly. Over one-third of the western delivery points now have their full wheat delivery quota of 14 bushels per authorized acre. Only 154 out of 2,149 points remain on an 8-bushel basis. In addition to wheat deliveries of 152 million bushels, western farmers have been able to sell 10 million bushels of flax and 100 million bushels of other grains. These alternative and additional revenues and the advance in the price of wheat have helped the farmers' position so that the conditions of 1940-41 were not applicable.

If farm storage had been paid this crop year, serious difficulty in accepting deliveries of 280 million bushels was anticipated. In all probability, the payments would have had to be accompanied by a required delivery date on certain percentages of the farmer's quota and this feature, in turn, would have been a considerable offset to the scheme. It has already been necessary for the Canadian wheat board to urge producers to deliver grain within their existing delivery quotas wherever there is available space at their local delivery points.

Prompt filling of available storage space has two important advantages. It brings forward more of the kinds of grain and grades which can be quickly disposed of in domestic and export markets, and thereby serves to increase the total sales of grain by having them on hand for shipment forward when required. It also helps the Canadian wheat board in making it possible for producers to deliver 280 million bushels of wheat in the 1942-43 season. This cannot be accomplished if producers withhold a substantial volume for delivery in June and July.

Mr. MARK C. SENN (Haldimand): There is one point on which I am not clear. Do I understand that there is to be a bonus of \$2 an acre on any increased acreage of spring grains, that is coarse grains; and will that apply only west of the great lakes or throughout Canada?

Hon. J. G. GARDINER (Minister of Agriculture): The statement made on behalf of the Department of Agriculture was that legislation will be introduced in the house to provide for the payment of \$2 an acre. There will be an amendment to the present act, which provides for payment only in the western provinces on the reduced wheat acreage.

Mr. E. E. PERLEY (Qu'Appelle): I am sure this house, the west and the country generally will appreciate getting this state-

[Mr. J. A. MacKinnon.]

ment from the minister at such an early stage of the session. On no previous occasion has it been brought down so early, and I think it is a fine thing. I am sure, however, the minister could not expect us to follow the lengthy statement closely enough to ask questions on it now, but in one or two points I think it will be very disappointing to western Canada. I should like to ask a question or two. Did I understand the minister to say that about one-third of the delivery points have received the full 14-bushel quota that they were to receive on the seeded acreage of last year?

Mr. MacKINNON (Edmonton West): I did not say that. I said that over one-third of the western delivery points now have their full wheat delivery quota of fourteen bushels per authorized acre. In other words, the quota is there for the farmers to deliver.

Mr. PERLEY: Could the minister state when it would be possible for the other points to take the full fourteen bushels? There is a serious situation in certain districts, where the quota is only eight bushels.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I would direct the attention of hon. members to the fact that this is a statement by the minister, and there should be no debate in connection with it.

Mr. ROBERT FAIR (Battle River): There is one question which I believe is of vital interest to a number of farmers in western Canada who, because of weather and labour conditions, have not been able to get their 1942 crop threshed. I should like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. MacKinnon) if he will not immediately bring in an amendment to the wheat board act permitting farmers to deliver, on their 1942 quota, any grain they may have in their bins, whether grown in 1940, 1941 or 1942.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a question which should be placed upon the order paper.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. W. E. HARRIS
AND SECONDED BY MR. MAURICE HALLÉ

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. W. E. HARRIS (Grey-Bruce) moved:

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada: