

Wheat Board Act

the intention of the act. If I overlooked any one it was purely by reason of the fact that I thought any such amendment as the one mentioned—and I must say it was not called to my attention at the time—was one of those amendments made for the purpose of clarification only.

Mr. POULIOT: It was only one word.

INTERNMENTS

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION AND RELEASE OF
INTERRED ANTI-FASCISTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. VICTOR QUELCH (Acadia): Having in mind the brief presented to the Minister of Justice by a delegation of twenty-five persons from the national conference on democratic rights, has the government taken any action to investigate the cases of interned anti-fascists, on their individual merit, to the end that those held merely on the charge of having been members of the communist party may be released?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. This is a question of the kind which is not capable of an immediate answer without previous notice. I suggest that it be placed on the order paper.

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD ACT

PROVISION FOR INCREASED RATE PER BUSHEL ON
WHEAT DELIVERED BY PRODUCERS

Hon. J. A. MacKINNON (Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935, by making provision for the payment of an increased rate per bushel on wheat delivered by producers.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Fournier (Hull) in the chair.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): I understood from the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) yesterday that a statement would be made on Monday covering all the details. The other day the Minister of Trade and Commerce said it would be some time soon. Monday is to be the day, is it?

Mr. MacKINNON (Edmonton West): It will be discussed on Monday if it can be brought on that day.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. MacKinnon (Edmonton West) thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 13, to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.
[Mr. McLarty.]

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

REINSTATEMENT IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT OF
PERSONS WHO ENLIST IN HIS MAJESTY'S
FORCES

The house resumed from Thursday, March 5, consideration in committee of Bill No. 5, to provide for the reinstatement in civil employment of individuals who enlist for service in his majesty's forces or who perform essential war employment—Mr. Mitchell—Mr. Fournier (Hull) in the chair.

On section 1—short title.

Mr. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this bill is to help the men of the fighting forces to get jobs upon their return to civilian life. I believe there is no doubt that all hon. members are in favour of everything possible being done along that line, because we recognize that these men of the fighting forces will have done a great service for the nation, that they will have made sacrifices, and that in trying to become reestablished in civilian life they will be handicapped to a certain extent.

Therefore this bill says to employers, "You must"—it does not say "Will you please?"—it says "You must back up this fighting man who was your employee when he enlisted." I do not think it is asking too much of the government to suggest that it say to all its civil servants, including employees in this House of Commons, that it will go equally far. At the present time there may be an order in council which provides such protection for civil servants, but if there is I am not aware of it; I do suggest, that the government, in order to make its own position clear, should pass an order in council giving these civil servants just as much protection as we are forcing private employers to give to their employees.

But the government is failing to back up the men of the fighting forces in another way. It is failing to back up other fighting men who are even more numerous than those who will be benefited by this measure. I do hope I shall only have to draw this to the attention of the ministry in order to have the necessary steps taken to remedy the situation. I refer to the men of the fighting forces who try to get work through our new national employment agencies. After all, the great majority of the returned men who will get work will get it through those agencies. Those men will have given the same service to the nation and will have made the same sacrifices as the men protected by this bill. Nevertheless under our present laws, when they go to the national employment agencies they must take their chances with civilians seeking employment through the same agencies.