

Inquiries of the Ministry

commercial interests. I have never made any such statement as attributed to me by the hon. member, and I deny it.

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): This is a supplementary question which I wish to address to the Minister of Finance. I also wish to thank him for the information he has just given us respecting the flour content in the wheat contract. Can he tell the house whether some of this flour will be shipped out of west coast ports?

Mr. Sharp: I do not know the answer to that question.

MAINLAND CHINA—DUMPING DUTIES ON
IMPORTS UNDER QUOTA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Nicholas Mandziuk (Marquette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Are imports coming into Canada under an agreed quota subject to dumping duties?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not believe that question is acceptable. The hon. member seems to be asking a question of a very general nature and is perhaps asking for a legal interpretation. Certainly, the way he has phrased the question now, I do not see how it can be asked.

Mr. Mandziuk: May I be more specific. Are dumping duties charged against imports coming in under quota from mainland China, our good wheat customer? I think the Minister of National Revenue or the Minister of Finance is capable of answering that question.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the question may be a little more clear now but I still feel that it cannot be asked at this time.

[Later:]

Mr. Mandziuk: Mr. Speaker, my question deals with a subject previously raised. I was in the right church but in the wrong pew. Rephrasing a question I asked previously, may I ask the Minister of National Revenue whether he would not give consideration to removing dumping duties on goods coming into Canada from mainland China under a certain quota? I have in mind such items as cloth, suiting, or what have you.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think this is a question of general policy, and I doubt whether it should be asked.

Mr. Mandziuk: With all due deference, Mr. Speaker, this is a question of policy. I should like to know about the matter, because I

[Mr. Sharp.]

think it is very important. Would the minister not be prepared to answer in view of the fact that we shall be closing shop very soon?

Mr. Speaker: The minister does not appear very anxious.

Mr. Mandziuk: All he has to do is answer yes or no.

OLD AGE SECURITY

INCREASED PENSION ANNOUNCED BY
P.E.I. PREMIER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Has he given any consideration, following the example of the premier of Prince Edward Island, to relenting somewhat in regard to his position on old age security pensions?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the position taken by the premier of Prince Edward Island is made possible or will be made possible through the provisions of the Canada Assistance Plan.

PUBLIC SERVICE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE—PROTESTS
RESPECTING RECLASSIFICATION
OF POSITIONS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the minister of manpower having to do with appointments and classifications in the civil service which are causing disruption. With regard to the reclassification of officers of the National Employment Service, would the minister be prepared to make a statement with particular reference to the fact that a situation has been produced whereby employees who have been in the service for years have been informed they do not qualify for new classifications and are required to carry on in the same status as newcomers, who are qualified, but at lower salaries and without the prospect of increases? In other words, they have been placed in a frozen salary bracket. Would the minister explain this?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, a job evaluation within the National Employment