

prevented in any way, and no disciplinary action is to be taken against any employee by reason of his having been locked out or on strike. Second, the term of each collective agreement is extended to include the period beginning December 1, 1973, ending when a new agreement come into effect, or on November 30, 1975, whichever is earlier. Third, the terms and conditions of each existing agreement are amended by increasing the hourly basic rate of wages by 87 cents an hour, effective December 1, 1973, and by incorporating the other recommendations contained in the report of the conciliation commissioner.

Fourth, strikes and lock-outs are prohibited during the term of the extended agreements. Fifth, companies and unions shall resume negotiations and make every reasonable effort to agree on the manner in which the conciliation commissioner's recommendations are to be incorporated as amendments to the extended agreements. In the event that the parties cannot agree on the interpretation of the commissioner's recommendations, a referee may be appointed, whose decisions would be final and binding.

Mr. Speaker, I shall be pleased to answer any questions that hon. members may wish to ask.

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have this opportunity to take part in what I consider to be an extremely important debate. Before doing so, I should like to express, on behalf of my leader and others in this party, our extreme sympathy to His Excellency. We wish him well and look for a speedy recovery. I think this man has the wisdom, the ability and the background to enable him to make a most significant contribution to the development of this great land of ours.

As a member of the class of '68, I stand here with some pride, Mr. Speaker, in congratulating you upon your appointment to greater heights. You have now left the realm of the backbencher. You are now making more money. You are now involved with power the like of which I have not seen. But having known you, sir, over the past 6½ years, I am confident you will discharge your duties admirably. As a matter of fact, I had the opportunity of testing you the other day to see how you would turn out, and I must confess that I came out of it second best.

● (1530)

I should also like to extend my congratulations to the hon. member for Thunder Bay (Mr. Penner) who has also been elevated to new heights. I know we will all look for a great input from him, as well as from the Assistant Deputy Chairman. This is a choice that meets my approval without any question.

I should like to adopt the sentiments expressed by my colleagues on both sides of the House with regard to the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Both did an admirable job. It seems to me that their input will be significant, one to which I think all of us will be able to point with pride. They are not going to find their job easy; it can be a frustrating task. Yet I think all of us who have had the opportunity of being elected to this House realize that we are in the big league here. In this place we formulate

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policy and direction that will move this country into the eighties and nineties, in keeping with the needs and aspirations of the Canadian people. We are continually kept aware of the legitimate aspirations and hopes of all our people—and I leave out no one.

We have, of course, seen some evidence of the denial, or perhaps I should say unawareness, of certain of our brothers, our native people, for whom I have a lot of sympathy. You are in one heck of a position when you are left out of the mainstream of Canadian life, your forefathers having been responsible for the birth of this country. But as the years went on, with our set ideas, our prejudices and our dislike of certain people because of race, colour or creed, we found these people getting further and further behind.

I hope that what happened here last week registered concern in all of us. If we do not indicate that we are aware of the problem, and if we do not bring about solutions, then your guess, Mr. Speaker, as to what is going to happen in the long run is as good as mine. We may have to revert to the confrontation of the sixties that occurred in the United States and which all of us deplored. But I think we in this House will not allow that to happen. We on this side will see to it that the government is kept aware of the situation and that it brings about solutions to the tremendous problems facing these people.

Because of the very real concern of the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) and the hon. member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington) over the situation, I had the privilege of being chosen as one of nine to journey to Vancouver and Calgary to obtain the facts concerning the dispute with which we are dealing today. I must commend these hon. members, because as a result of their very real concern many of us had an opportunity of discussing this dispute not only with the union but with terminal managers and, indeed, the presidents of the wheat pools. In consequence, we on this side of the House are better informed, perhaps better informed than the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro), the Minister of Justice in charge of the Wheat Board (Mr. Lang), and last but not least, the proponent of the just society. I think we are all better informed as a result of our trip.

Not only should I like publicly to thank my colleagues, but also the members of local 333 of the union involved, the terminal managers and the presidents for their open, frank, serious and meaningful discussions, which in the long run have meant that we on this side are better able to understand the situation. We understand now, as the minister has so indicated, that the grain handling industry is in a mess.

Having listened to the Minister of Labour's sob story, I can only say that the approach of the government to this entire matter can only be described as over reaction, bungling, irresponsibility and inept and heavy-handed approach. The Minister of Labour comes from the great city of Hamilton. I have listened to him extolling the virtues of the collective bargaining process. Yet I watched him unwarrantably interrupting the collective bargaining process by blessing the Perry report, which meant that all meaningful negotiations were destroyed. The collective bargaining process as we know it was also destroyed.

The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Chrétien) was asked a question about the inspectors, and although I