

Inquiries of the Ministry

either has or will have before long a copy of the submission. He can, of course, interpret it as well as I.

Mr. Gleave: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The House has just about run out of time for the question period, but the Chair would like to recognize the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar for one supplementary on this point, and then call on the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar.

WHEAT—REQUEST BY CANADIAN FEDERATION
OF AGRICULTURE FOR FLOOR PRICE
OF \$1.95½ PER BUSHEL

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Might I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether he can assure the House that the government will give serious consideration to the request of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture for a floor price of \$1.95½ per bushel, basis Thunder Bay, for all wheat moving into international trade, in other words, into export markets?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the government has given serious consideration to this and, as the hon. member knows, has gone a long way in guaranteeing the floor price for all wheat, going into domestic human consumption.

FEED GRAIN—REQUESTED INCREASE IN
FREIGHT RATE ASSISTANCE

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Agriculture and arises out of the requests made by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture this morning. Will the assistance made available under the feed grain freight assistance act be increased instead of decreased?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we had a useful discussion about that particular matter this morning. There were two or three aspects of the whole matter to which the federation agreed with us further consideration should be given, including whether or not the policy should be based on the total amount of money or on rates in view of the fact that volume changes from year to year, depending on a number of circumstances. But I can advise the hon. member that we had a very useful discussion about that question this morning.

[Mr. Olson.]

• (3:10 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT RESPECTING HATE PROPAGANDA

The House resumed from Thursday, April 9, consideration of the motion of Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton) for the third reading of Bill C-3, to amend the Criminal Code.

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Annapolis Valley (Mr. Nowlan) aroused my curiosity when he took part in the debate on Thursday evening and pointed out some of the great figures of the past who would have suffered had this particular measure been in effect in their country. I gave this some considerable thought while looking at my own modest library over the week end, and I came to the conclusion that a lot of us are going to be in a great deal of trouble, in view of the types of books we have been purchasing, if this measure is put into operation.

For example, I think that no home should harbour such an insidious document as the Bible, either the Old Testament or the New Testament, because there are clearly chapters in both the Old Testament and the New Testament that would incite hatred against an identifiable group in a manner that is likely to lead to a breach of the peace.

I quarrelled with the hon. member for Annapolis Valley in my mind at the thought that Jesus would or could be a victim of this particular bill, and I thought of His sermon on the mount "Blessed be the meek". But when one thinks of the disorder that arose as a result of His peaceful teachings, one can only conclude that anything that contained His teachings would have to go. As a result, the Bible would be a sadly emasculated document if it were to survive as a book that could be freely sold and read in our times and contain no passages that would offend the particular measure with which we are dealing.

Then, when story time for the children came around, I picked up a book about Robin Hood. In the edition that I have Robin Hood has some pretty harsh language to use against the Normans who a few years before good old Robin got into action had carried out the Norman conquest. The Normans, I would suggest, were a clearly identifiable group because of race or ethnic origin, and so it almost becomes a criminal offence to have Robin Hood in the House.