Mr. Nystrom: In view of the fact the four premiers said that if something is not done almost immediately, thousands may go out of business resulting in higher prices for consumers, will the Prime Minister consider at least one of the proposals, a cash advance program similar to that already in effect in this country for grains?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I always consider proposals made to me by premiers very seriously.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, I do not think the producers of this country will tolerate that type of answer. I want to know whether the Prime Minister will be coming forward with specific programs and, if so, when will he do this? If something is not done, many producers will be going out of business within the next two weeks.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, there is really no announcement I can make this morning beyond saying that the matter is being considered in cabinet.

[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS

PROPOSED MEETINGS WITH UNITED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYEES
TO DISCUSS ESTABLISHMENT OF MULTINATIONAL
COMPANIES IN CANADA

Mr. Jacques Olivier (Longueuil): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Labour.

Would he agree to meet the main representatives of the United Aircraft employees union to discuss problems caused by the establishment of multinational companies in Canada?

[English]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to meet with them if they are desirous of meeting with me to find out what merit there would be in the involvement of the federal government at this time

GRAIN

INCREASE IN INITIAL PRICE OF WHEAT—INQUIRY AS TO DATE AND AMOUNT

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. As the minister has already stated there will be an increase in the initial price of wheat board grain, probably before Christmas, will he now indicate how much of an increase he or the wheat board is contemplating and when that increase will be made.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I do not think the hon. member is referring quite accurately to anything I have said. He may be referring to a remark in which I said, while I had earlier thought that consideration of an increase after January might be the most desirable time, I was giving further consideration to the

Oral Questions

timing of it. However, the question is now more when rather than whether the increase will be made.

Mr. Murta: Mr. Speaker, I was under the assumption the minister stated in Winnipeg there would be an increase before Christmas. In any event, the minister has not answered my question which is relatively straight forward. When is he contemplating an increase and what amount will it be?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, my answer made it obvious that the when has not yet been decided. Obviously, the amounts have not yet been decided either.

WHEAT—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON MODIFICATION OF TWO PRICE SYSTEM

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. Having regard to the fact that wheat production in Canada will be down by some 13 per cent and this year the quality of the wheat will be of low grade variety, having the overall affect of reducing gross receipts to the prairie wheat producers, and given the fact that milling wheat for export purposes is now selling at \$6 a bushel while that for domestic consumption is being sold at \$5 a bushel, is the government giving consideration to modifying the two price wheat structure? If not, why not?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, this is a long-term structure which ensures a floor as well as a ceiling. I think it is a very reasonable arrangement in terms of grain. This year there is a lot of lower quality and out of condition grain being produced. The challenge at the moment is to ensure that drying equipment is there to dry that which comes off damp. It is also a fact that world market conditions are such that the grain of lower quality which is coming off is actually selling at a very high price.

Mr. Mazankowski: Inasmuch as a differential of \$1 per bushel could result in a loss of something in the order of \$50 million to \$60 million to the prairie wheat producers, does it remain the intention of this government to carry on this wrestling match against inflation on the backs of the farmers?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member fails to note that the overall arrangement, a seven-year program with a guaranteed minimum as well as a guaranteed ceiling, means there can be periods during which the producer receives a little less because of the fixed maximum. However, there are other times, just as there were from 1969 to 1972, when the producer receives more from the consumer because of the higher price which is being paid.

AGRICULTURE

BEEF CATTLE—SUGGESTED CONSULTATION WITH UNITED STATES ON PROPOSED IMPORT QUOTAS

Mr. Jack Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Because of the uncertainty in the cattle industry and the fact that the fall run