Inquiries of the Ministry

responsible might answer the question which has just been asked by the hon. member for Abitibi.

[English]

POSSIBLE NATIONAL STRIKE—COMMENTS BY POSTMASTER GENERAL

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): I have a supplementary question for the Acting Prime Minister. Does the Acting Prime Minister not believe that the chances of avoiding this unfortunate postal strike would be greatly improved if some means could be found to shut off the flow of inflammatory verbiage that pours from the mouth of the Postmaster General on every possible occasion?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

GRAIN

WHEAT—CHANGE IN PRICING POLICIES FOLLOWING REPORT OF TASK FORCE ON AGRICULTURE

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the report of the Task Force on Agriculture recommends that Canada make no further concessions under the International Grains Arrangement until they are matched in full by other countries, and in view of the serious losses Canada has suffered since 1967 by making these sacrifices, will the government consider changing the pricing policies now being followed by the Canadian Wheat Board?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think this is a non sequitur. The various negotiations that were carried on for an international wheat agreement were discussed with the farm leaders, who I have always understood have supported very strongly the idea of an international wheat agreement and I hope continue to do so.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of these statements in the task force report can he then assure the House that the Minister of Agriculture or the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Wheat Board will make a statement on motions on the pricing policies now being followed by the Canadian Wheat Board and any possible changes that may be made?

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Sharp: Well, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that this is the kind of subject that would be better discussed in a standing committee of the House, where I have heard similar discussions take place. It is a very important subject, and it is not one that could be adequately discussed by means of a statement on motions in the House and replies thereto.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a further supplementary question to the Acting Prime Minister. Are we then to assume the government is going to permit this policy to be continued even though it has been brought into disrepute as a result of the publication of the task force report?

Mr. Speaker: Order. It seems to me that the hon. member's further supplementary was asked in the form of a debate or argument, and I do not think it is acceptable in those terms.

CANADIAN BILL OF RIGHTS

DISTRIBUTION TO SCHOOLS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State. It has to do with the suggestion that has been made to the effect that he intends to have copies of the Bill of Rights made available to the schools of Canada. Is that commendable objective in his mind, and is it being carried out?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): It is certainly a very interesting suggestion, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I ask whether or not it is being considered because it has been rumoured that the minister is going to do that. Has there been no action in that direction yet?

Mr. Pelletier: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but from the very moment that the right hon. member makes a suggestion to me it is under consideration.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I commend the Secretary of State for his wisdom.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: In the meantime, while this matter receives his consideration will he see to it that a copy of the Bill of Rights is delivered to the Department of Justice?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!