

*Inquiries of the Ministry***CANADIAN ECONOMY****STEPS TO MEET INCREASE IN
COST OF LIVING**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Due to the continuing rise in the cost of living, will the government not act and legislate forthwith, to allay the burden of these high costs upon Canadians of meagre and limited means?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): My hon. friend should wait for the budget and the financial legislation which will be embodied in it.

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON
INCREASED PAYMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the Prime Minister if there are any further statements he might make in regard to the possibility of the increase in the old age security payments.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Not at the moment, Mr. Speaker.

PUBLIC SERVICE**INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON
BILINGUALISM—REQUEST
FOR STATEMENT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked the Prime Minister a question about the forthcoming announcement concerning bilingualism in the Civil Service. I do not think he fully understood my question. One part of my question was this: Has the government's committee on this subject received a report from the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, because I know that they have been making a considerable study of that subject.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): When the interdepartmental committee was considering the matter, I understood they had talks with employees representatives of the Bilingualism and Biculturalism Commission, who were concerned also with this matter. They had an exchange of views at this time, and that was of assistance to the interdepartmental committee, and the report.

[Mr. Pepin.]

GRAIN**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON
PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosihern): I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. I wonder if he would some time in the very near future, prior to the beginning of seeding, make a statement that would indicate objectives for grain producers in western Canada.

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to take this question as notice. I am not sure whether it comes under my department, or under that of the Minister of Finance in his capacity of being in charge of the Wheat Board. I shall be glad to take it into consideration, and to give the hon. member an answer shortly.

PRIVILEGE**MR. COWAN—OBSERVATIONS IN DEBATE BY
HON. MEMBER FOR KOOTENAY EAST—
TRUSCOTT CASE**

Mr. Ralph Cowan (York-Humber): I rise on a question of privilege in which I know I am associated with a number of hon. members of this house—and as the facts are outlined I am sure I will be associated with the majority of hon. members of this house. This is the first appropriate opportunity which has presented itself since last Thursday night for me to rise on this question of privilege.

Last Friday afternoon during a day-long discussion of a certain matter, one of the members of this house made a reference to the judiciary and spoke in these terms:

—it was the establishment again coming up with some idea of how to get out of this mess and how they could, by suggesting a judicial inquiry, shove it off on to some unbeknown judge who would work on their behalf.

At this point the Minister of Labour rose in his place, quite properly, to state:

On a question of privilege, the hon. member suggested that a member of the judiciary of this country would be made a tool of this government. By doing so he reflects on the government and on our judiciary.

I am not supposed to refer to the action of the Speaker, but Your Honour then stated:

Order, please. In general terms, the hon. member knows no comment should be made which reflects on the judiciary.

I rise at this time to state publicly that I dissociate myself 100 per cent—and I believe I am speaking for many members of this