

print, and it can be distributed and taken up here later this afternoon. In the meantime we could proceed with other items.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Honourable members, I must say that I have a little difference of opinion with some of my colleagues on this side of the House. These wheat bills are tremendously important, and I think it would be better to follow the original suggestion of the honourable acting leader and postpone the motion for second reading until to-morrow. Probably I am technically out of order, but I may be permitted by honourable senators to make just a few remarks.

There are three wheat bills to be dealt with by us. One is the Prairie Farm Assistance Bill, which would apply when there is a crop failure. Another is the Wheat Acreage Reduction Bill, which has just been given first reading, and under which, if a farmer switches from wheat to coarse grains or grass or summer-fallow, he will get \$2 per acre for whatever part of his 1940 wheat acreage is so switched; and if he had no wheat acreage in 1940, then the computation would be based on his 1939 wheat acreage. The third bill is the one which provides for an increase in the price of 280 million bushels of wheat from 70 to 90 cents a bushel f.o.b. Fort William or Vancouver. Of course I think the Prairie Farm Assistance Bill should be passed, for it applies where the farmer has nothing; he has been dried, or grass-hoppered, or blown out. Then this Bill, which switches the crop from wheat to oats, barley, grass or flax, or summer-fallow, is an important measure and applies to every farmer. The third Bill, as I have said, relates to the price of grain. I really think the three Bills should be discussed together, so that honourable senators may better understand what is involved. That is why I am opposed to this motion for second reading being considered to-day, particularly as I expect the ninety-cent Bill will reach us to-morrow. I understand an effort will be made to-morrow morning to report that Bill out of committee of the Commons on condition that the committee be allowed to continue its sittings in order to examine the Grain Board's operations. Opposition from all angles in the other House was directed to that point. If that arrangement is carried out, it is hoped to get the Bill through the other House to-morrow. I suggest we do not proceed with the motion for second reading now.

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: All the Bill involves is this. Under the Act the Governor in Council can declare an emergency year, provided the price of wheat or barley is below 80 cents a bushel.

Hon. Mr. KING:

Hon. Mr. MARSHALL: The honourable gentleman has the wrong bill. We are considering Bill 12.

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: I beg pardon.

Hon. Mr. KING: We are discussing Bill 12. The Government has been carrying on under Order in Council, and the purpose of this Bill is to give legislative authority for such action. I hope my honourable friend will allow the motion for second reading to pass. It would enable us to get this Bill into committee to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: Can the honourable leader of the House (Hon. Mr. King) tell us when the Wheat Board Bill will reach us?

Hon. Mr. KING: It depends on what happens in the House of Commons committee.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: Is it likely to reach us before the Easter adjournment?

Hon. Mr. KING: I think so.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: I am inclined to agree with the honourable senator from Winnipeg South-Centre (Hon. Mr. Haig) that the three Bills are so closely related to one another that they should be considered at the same time.

Hon. Mr. MARSHALL: Is it agreed then that we proceed with the second reading of Bill No. 12?

Hon. C. P. BEAUBIEN: We have not got the Bill.

Hon. Mr. MARSHALL: No, we have not yet received the print of the Bill as it passed the other House. There it was slightly amended in Committee of the Whole. With the consent of the Senate, I will move the second reading of Bill No. 12; but if it is desired that we should not proceed with it further until we have the Bill before us as it finally passed the other House, I would suggest that we deal with it to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: There is no bill on our files.

Hon. Mr. MARSHALL: No, you have not got the third-reading form.

Hon. Mr. KING: I suggest that we facilitate the business of the Senate by proceeding with the other orders, and that if this Bill as it passed the other House can be distributed we take it up later.