

Mr. Hees: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I apologize. There was so much noise coming from the other side of the House that I could not hear you. I therefore apologize, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I should like the Prime Minister to explain to the House either now or at some other time why the working people of Canada, some of whom are making incomes that are fairly low, and the unions representing them should agree to a 6 per cent limit on increases in their incomes—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Lewis:—when the banks have enjoyed much larger—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I should have intervened earlier in this debate. We have clearly entered the field of debate. This is the question period. I think that the last two or three questions were more in the realm of argument than in the field of questions. I think I ought to allow the hon. member for Lisgar to ask his question.

Mr. Lewis: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. With great respect, I realize that the time is passing but I do not think we were debating. The government has enunciated a policy. Something has happened in the economy which is normally—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is not a point of order. The hon. member is debating. He first debated, in my view, the question and now he is attempting to debate the ruling of the Chair. I think we ought to call on the hon. member for Lisgar.

GRAIN

BARLEY—AMOUNT OF DELIVERIES TO THUNDER BAY UNDER ADDITIONAL QUOTA

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Wheat Board. Would the minister inform the House how much barley the Wheat Board hopes to receive for delivery to Thunder Bay under the extra quotas now in force in Manitoba and Saskatchewan for that grain?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the Wheat Board has very substantial shipments of barley to move. I do not have precise figures before me, but they are in the order of 20 million bushels or

Inquiries of the Ministry

more which are required in the period. In the last week on which I have seen reports, 5.2 million bushels came in.

WHEAT—ESTIMATE OF SEEDED ACREAGE—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON REDUCTION UNDER LIFT PROGRAM

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister without Portfolio. In view of the fact that the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool crop report shows plantings of approximately 8 million acres in the province as of June 5, as well as seeded acreage for other crops, can the minister inform the House whether his department has had surveys conducted of the acreage sown to wheat in the three western provinces to determine if it is in line with the Lift program?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the simple answer is that no comprehensive surveys of any great accuracy have been made. I should caution the hon. member against relying too heavily upon the figures to which he referred since I believe the analysis is very limited and in percentage form. The hon. member, I think, should not put money on those figures.

Mr. Gleave: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate very much the advice the minister gave me. I will therefore ask him if he will take an opportunity before the end of the present session to make a statement on motions to indicate to the House the acreage reduction under the Lift program and the probable amount of money that therefore will be disbursed to the farmers in the western region?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I will be very glad to do so if the figures available by that time are sufficiently accurate to allow anything very substantial to be said.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. Would the minister take it upon himself to advise that economic apologist, Dr. John Young, that he cannot put the blame for unemployment and other problems on the backs of labour but that he should place it on a bumbling government where it belongs?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East.