

*Grain Payments*

cept upon which the Wheat Board was established, that of an agency to sell grain and return the proceeds of those sales to the farmers.

I hope he has finally got away from projects such as Lift, has finally abandoned the intricacies and convolutions of grain stabilization programs and has returned to the position where he intends to move the grain and get the high dollar for the farmer. If this is any indication he intends to do that, we shall all cheer.

I would point out one thing to him. Taking the initial prices for the three grains, the initial price for barley should be increased. The minister has concerned himself with distortions in production. The low initial price for barley may be one of the factors which will distort production in the coming year.

I think, also, that the study on the rationalization of transportation and storage should be released to the public without delay. Unless this is done, the system of handling, storing and moving grain will not make the progress which should be made. We are in a crisis with regard to the movement of grain to the west coast. This is common knowledge. Before the House is dissolved, before we go into an election, the minister in charge of the Wheat Board or the Minister of Transport should bring forward an all-inclusive program in relation to the movement and storage of grain. If this is delayed for another year we will have lost that much time in implementing a program to meet this crucial problem for Prairie farmers. This is our lifeline and if the government does not bring some program into the House before the next election it will be failing in its responsibilities to the grain farmers of western Canada. I take the opportunity to say this to the minister in the House because there will be changes in the grain handling industry in any case and unless they are properly directed they may very well not be the ones we want.

[Translation]

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, considering that I have read the minister's statement in the last few minutes only, it was obviously impossible for me to compare prices for 1971 with those that the minister has just announced for 1972.

In any event, when looking at the budget that was tabled, particularly at the amounts allotted to agricultural expansion and to price support, one finds that, in the primary sector, there is a reduction from this year. Now, it is quite possible that adjustments were made in different sectors.

I note, for instance, that subsidies for dairy products were reduced to \$21 million. I cannot say whether this reduction is justified because I have not had the opportunity of studying the matter thoroughly.

At any rate, I say that both in the east and in the west, it is the government's responsibility to give the people of Canada a strong, stable agricultural industry. To this end, the government must give producers advance notice of the prices to be paid them during the crop year. On that point some headway has been made.

Concerning grain, the hon. minister has, for the second consecutive year, made a sufficiently early announcement of his policy, for which I am much thankful to him. I should, however, like to seize the opportunity of once

[Mr. Gleave.]

more calling his attention to the existence in Canada, and particularly in the eastern provinces, of a serious feed grain problem

It is urgent that a solution be found. I understand that efforts have been made, that there has been some improvement, but not enough to place eastern producers on the same level as those in the west.

Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the Prime Minister's statement in Montreal last month that agriculture must learn to be self-sufficient and that grants for agricultural production must be discontinued, I disagree entirely with him on that subject and I should like to put this on the record, because many other sectors of our economy get government grants for their survival. We could see, in the speech that the hon. Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Marchand) made yesterday, that my remarks are utterly correct in this respect.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the whole agricultural community I wish our governments would get into the habit of being efficient, not only during the last year of their terms of office but throughout their terms, because when I, for instance, hire someone and he is efficient only during the last hour, I say that he has not fulfilled his responsibility and I hasten to fire him.

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• (1430)

[English]

### LABOUR

TABLING OF DOCUMENT OUTLINING CANADIAN POSITION ON CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT 1969 AND 1970 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCES

**Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2) I should like to table a document, in English and in French, outlining the Canadian position with respect to conventions and recommendations adopted at the 53rd and 54th sessions of the International Labour Conference at Geneva, June, 1969, and June, 1970.

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### MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent importance, namely, the indiscriminate and indiscreet distribution of large amounts of money under the local initiatives program sponsored by the Department of Manpower and Immigration. I should like to move, seconded by the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay):

That a special reference be made, from this House to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration, to investigate the distribution of funds, to examine the criteria on which the distribution was based, to examine the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and officials of his department, in order to determine