

GRAIN

IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSITIONAL
ACREAGE PAYMENT APART FROM
STABILIZATION LEGISLATION

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the disastrous effect the United States import surcharge will have on the export of some of our agricultural products to that country, will the minister take immediate steps to pay to western farmers the \$100 million which he previously stated was available?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this certainly can be done as soon as the bill is passed. The last time it was before the House the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar was filibustering it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gleave: I have a supplementary question.

An hon. Member: And so he should, because this is rotten pool.

Mr. Gleave: I can understand the minister's—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar has a supplementary question.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I can understand—

An hon. Member: You can't understand anything.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gleave: You can't take it.

An hon. Member: You haven't asked a question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are running out of time and I think the hon. member should ask his question as quickly as possible.

Mr. Gleave: I should like to do so if I am permitted, Mr. Speaker. I can understand the sensitivity—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has the floor for the purpose of asking a question, not for the purpose of advancing argument. I would invite him to ask the question as soon as possible.

Mr. Gleave: In view of the fact that during the summer the minister notified individual farmers as to the amounts they would receive, if and when payments were made, will he now consider splitting the stabilization bill so the House can deal immediately with these payments to the farmers in the amounts indicated?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding of these matters that the payments cannot be made without

Inquiries of the Ministry

approval by Parliament, that putting this item along with the repeal of the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act by way of the estimates would not likely lead to the payments being made earlier, and that the earliest possible way to make the payments is by having the legislation come forward and passed as soon as possible.

WITHHOLDING BY GOVERNMENT OF PAYMENTS UNDER
TEMPORARY WHEAT RESERVES ACT

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Justice. Has his department taken any steps to determine whether the law is being flouted by the government in not having paid out the \$61 million under the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act even though that act is in existence today?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act has not been repealed, can the minister in charge of the Wheat Board advise the House what legal and moral justification the government has for withholding payments—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is strictly argumentation rather than a question. The Chair will now recognize a less argumentative questioner, the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Justice will out, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Hees: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member for Vegreville rising on a point of order?

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I believe the minister has a responsibility to explain to the people of Canada and the House exactly why the government has flouted the law by not meeting its commitments and its obligations under the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act which has not been repealed.

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member did not ask a question but advanced an argument, and in that respect his question is out of order. That is the reason the hon. member's question was ruled out of order. If he asks the question directly, then certainly he has every right to do so.