

*Oral Questions*REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE FEED GRAINS WILL NOT BE  
REMOVED FROM WHEAT BOARD

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, the reply given by the minister still further encourages the stream of remour that is all over western Canada. Has the minister received telegrams from the three wheat pools of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta strongly objecting to any attempt to put domestic feed grains on the open market? That includes wheat. Surely, the minister can give an answer in this regard. I tell him as well, having received the telegrams, that there is tremendous uncertainty in western Canada and feed lots are being closed down by producers of cattle who fear the increase in prices. Can he give an assurance to the western people now, not two weeks hence, that there is no foundation for the suggestion that feed grains are going to be taken from the Wheat Board and placed on the open market?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I have received a number of telegrams, but I am not sure that I have the ones to which the hon. member has referred.

**An hon. Member:** Read them.

**Mr. Lang:** However, certainly there is a great deal of concern about the continuing role of the Canadian Wheat Board in our marketing system. I am certainly reassuring everyone who contacts me that I attach a great deal of importance to the orderly marketing of grain in Canada and to the role of the Canadian Wheat Board in that connection and, to the extent that I can in advance of announcing the whole policy, I am trying to give that reassurance. I do say, of course, that everyone should appreciate the very earnest purpose which we have in developing a proper domestic grains policy in Canada, which is to be perfectly fair to all regions of the country and to the animal as well as the grain sector of our economy. I am confident that we will, in fact, be able to do so in the new policy.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The right hon. member for Prince Albert and others want to ask supplementaries. There are two minutes left before the end of the question period and perhaps the time could be used for that purpose.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, the answer given by the minister adds to the uncertainty. Could I suggest to him that he make what I might call an "Ottopact" with the western farmer that this policy would be adopted?

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I think the western farmer realizes that this government has been taking constant action to improve the grain situation in this country, such as we have never seen before, and that kind of "Ottopact" is going to continue.

[Mr. Lang.]

[Translation]

## INDUSTRY

ASBESTOS—MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE COMPANIES TO  
MANUFACTURE FINISHED PRODUCTS—SUGGESTED  
LIMITING OF EXPORT OF RAW MATERIAL

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

As studies have proven that asbestos mines, especially in the Eastern Townships, are not creating any more employment, even if they have developed prodigiously within these last 20 years, and this, according to the same statistics, because those mining companies are exporting most of their production in the raw state, can the minister tell us whether the government or the department intends to encourage these companies to make more investments here for the manufacture of finished products?

[English]

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, we are very interested in doing just that, encouraging the developers of raw materials in Canada and natural resources in Canada to process those resources in Canada.

[Translation]

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Richmond may ask a supplementary question, following which I will give the floor to the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Beaudoin:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Does he propose to place restrictions on exports of crude asbestos to force mining companies which are tapping asbestos deposits in our country to manufacture finished products, with a view to reducing the proportion of unprocessed minerals exported?

[English]

**Mr. Gillespie:** Mr. Speaker, there are no plans to impose those kinds of restraints; rather our policy has been to encourage through incentives.

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## CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

DISPUTE WITH NON-OPERATING EMPLOYEES—ALLEGED  
FAILURE OF MEDIATION—GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Labour regarding the dispute between the railways and the non-operating unions. Has the minister received word of the failure of the mediation and conciliation process to produce agreement which may open up the way to a strike? If so, what action does the minister and the government propose to take?

● (1530)

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, before I comment on any specifics, I should advise the Leader of the Opposition that the chairman, I understand,