

review of defence and foreign policy will be presented to the house before the summer adjournment?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not believe there will necessarily be a white paper on this aspect of it. We have talked about a white paper on our foreign policy, but on the matter of defence it will not necessarily be in the form of a white paper. It might well be by way of a statement by the minister, which he will make as soon as the decision is reached.

Mr. Lewis: As a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister whether the white paper on foreign policy will be presented to the house before the summer adjournment, and whether the statement by the minister on defence policy will be made before the summer adjournment?

Mr. Trudeau: I am afraid we would have to ask the two ministers about the timing they have in mind.

GRAIN

WHEAT—ASSISTANCE TO CANADIAN FARMERS TO REDUCE ACREAGE

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Yesterday the minister stated that the western farmers were contemplating a 12 per cent reduction in their wheat acreage. Is the minister now in a position to assure the farmers that the government is giving consideration to giving them some assistance to achieve this objective?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I answered this question yesterday. I have nothing to add.

TRADE

WHEAT—DELIVERY UNDER U.S.S.R. AGREEMENT

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): In his reply yesterday the minister did not give any assurance that the farmers would have any assistance. Since the government apparently does not intend to assist the farmers in reducing the wheat acreage can the minister assure the house that the Canadian Wheat Board and his department are in a position to load and deliver the 135 million bushel balance of wheat sales under the three year sales agreement with Russia which expires July 31?

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Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I cannot give an assurance, for the very simple reason that these problems are studied by the cabinet, and I can only announce policy when policy is formulated by the cabinet. With respect to the sale to Russia, however, we have the quantities of wheat for delivery to Russia and when the contract is signed the Wheat Board will see to it that the quantities are delivered.

BARLEY—LOSS TO FRANCE OF JAPANESE MARKET

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. On his recent visit to Japan did he seize the opportunity to discuss with the Japanese government the loss of the Canadian barley market to heavily subsidized barley from France and, if so, with what result?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Yes, Mr. Speaker; we brought up this problem in the conversations. I tried to convince the Japanese buyers, in this instance the Japanese government, that they should also look to the long term. We have protested formally to the E.E.C. and to the French government on the extreme subsidization of these sales.

ADHERENCE BY AUSTRALIA TO INTERNATIONAL GRAINS ARRANGEMENT

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce whether in his discussions with the representatives of the government of Australia he succeeded in getting any firm commitments to the effect that Australia would adhere to the price levels set out in the International Grains Arrangement?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, every country is full of good intentions. The Australian government has made some offers that would tend to renounce some marketing advantages. These offers were made on April 27 at the prices review committee in London, if my memory is good. The United States representatives also indicated they are willing to make some changes in their present practices. All exporters are looking at each other to see who will move first. Of course sales like the one made by France to China, at reduced prices, will not induce other exporters to step into line and to return to the pricing schedule of the I.G.A.