

Mr. Muir (Lisgar): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I was just getting to my question. Would the minister also give consideration to maintaining the present delivery quota system, instead of using the Wheat Board to coerce the farmers into following an unworkable plan of using summerfallow as a basis of wheat delivery?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I believe the hon. member for Regina East had a supplementary question.

WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—
FURTHER ACTION TO STABILIZE FARM
INCOME

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct this question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact that a considerable portion of the increase in unemployment announced today took place on the Prairies and is due to agricultural conditions, is the government presently considering any further plans to stabilize farm income in addition to the plan announced by the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang)?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker.

WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—
AMENDMENT OF CASH ADVANCES
LEGISLATION

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that farmers must soon decide on their crop planting plans for this year, does the minister intend to introduce legislation to amend the cash advances legislation, which will have to be changed if farmers are going to follow the plan announced by the minister?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the cash advance legislation as it exists will continue to apply, and the eligibility of farmers for cash advances will therefore continue to be based on the wording of that legislation. The cash advance system itself will be continued.

Mr. Korchinski: As a supplementary question, for clarification—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will have to go on to another subject in a moment, but the hon. member for Mackenzie may have a supplementary and then I will recognize the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre.

Mr. Korchinski: Just for clarification, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the wording

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of the cash advance legislation relates to the total cultivated acreage rather than summerfallow acreage or other specified acreage, does the minister not feel that that legislation should be amended at this time so that farmers will know whether they qualify for cash advances or not?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, in fact the cash advance legislation refers to acreage in such a way that it will be possible to operate the legislation in connection with the program, with the delivery opportunities based on the acres specified for that purpose in the permit book.

WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—
COVER CROPS—QUOTA SYSTEM FACTORS

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister without Portfolio whether the regulations for the wheat acreage reduction program will allow farmers to put in cover crops rather than summerfallow? Further, will the minister advise whether under the new quota system consideration will be given to farmers who reduced their wheat acreage last year, and to farmers who have no wheat carry-over?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, it is our intention to include provision for cover crops within the regulations, allowing a farmer to put in a cover crop after July 15, a cover crop of any type provided he does not harvest it, and still count the land as summerfallow, or to put in a cover crop of oats early in the year provided that crop is turned down or cut prior to July 15.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

STATEMENT REGARDING POSSIBLE ACTION
BY QUEBEC

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether or not the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion uttered government policy last night, when he went outside his own field and stated that so far as a certain provincial government is concerned that, unless it has an over-all majority, any action by it that is not acceptable to the federal government will be subject to veto, and if the provincial government carries out its threat to act, having taken office and having the support of most of the members in the legislature, there would even be armed intervention on the part of the federal government?