

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Minister without Portfolio from Windsor West. I registered some concern about our manufacturing industries and I was advised—

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Alexander:**—by the minister that the question should be directed to the minister or to the Minister of National Revenue and I ask—

**Some hon. Members:** Speech!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I have to seek the co-operation of the hon. member. We are running short of time and perhaps he should ask his question as quickly as possible.

**Mr. Alexander:** With all due respect, I had to give the preamble. My question had to do with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, with particular reference to dumping. I would ask the minister whether it was brought to his attention and, if so, when we may expect a statement with respect to the general effectiveness of it?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Which question, which minister, Mr. Speaker?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I respectfully suggest to the hon. member that this might be getting a little complicated. I wonder whether there might not be direct communication between the minister and the hon. member so as to identify the question and have a reply given later.

**Mr. Alexander:** This was the problem I had sought to avoid by giving the preamble. My question was directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I thought I had given a sufficiently clear preamble. My question had to do with the effectiveness of GATT, with particular reference to dumping. I asked the minister whether he was aware of the question which had been asked and whether he would be prepared to make a statement in that regard.

**Mr. Pepin:** I will rush out and consult *Hansard* as soon as I can.

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

### REFERENCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF AIR CANADA AND CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS TO STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. We have now reached the last month before

the summer recess. Can the minister assure the House that the annual reports of Air Canada and Canadian National Railways will be referred to the Transport Committee before the end of June?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** I have been in consultation with the chairman of the committee and I was under the impression that the steering committee was about to plan its work for the month. I, personally, have no objection to these referrals.

## GRAIN

### WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR REMOVING COVER CROPS

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre):** May I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture relating to a matter which was raised about ten days ago? Hon. members will be aware that weather conditions in the prairie provinces have delayed seeding. In view of the fact that representations are being made by individual farmers, can the minister advise the House whether the government is prepared to consider extending the July 15 deadline for one or two weeks in respect to cover crops under Operation Lift?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** The purpose for which cover crops were included, and could be seeded on land which at the same time was called summerfallow for wheat quota purposes, was to protect that land against wind erosion. In my opinion we never intended that there should be any great quantities of fodder produced on that land. It seems to me the main purpose of drawing up the regulations in their present form was to cover that situation. If we were to amend them and overproduce fodder in western Canada it would be to the detriment of those who are normally engaged in fodder production.

**Mr. Benjamin:** Would the minister consider an extension in connection with what has been regarded as a nurse crop planted along with forage, for instance, in the event of oats being seeded along with the forage crop?

**Mr. Olson:** Any oats seeded prior to July 15, should the farmer wish to claim the land for summerfallow for wheat quota purposes, must be rendered unharvestable as a grain crop after July 15. Considering the purpose for which the regulations were designed, the lateness of the spring is not relevant.