

at present or in the very immediate future talks are or will be held between the signatories to the International Grains Arrangement so that this international agreement will be an effective instrument instead of a piece of paper?

**Mr. Lang:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The exporters meeting was held some time ago, and just very recently the prices review committee met. I am happy to tell hon. members that there was an expression of determination on all sides to work towards the maintenance of the I.G.A., and specifically to take strong action to examine those devices and techniques which had made it difficult to judge the exact prices being charged at times by the various participants.

#### WHEAT—CRUSADE FOR SALE OF SURPLUS

**Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Is he taking any cognizance of the many suggestions emanating from this chamber that he organize a crusade immediately to sell wheat or other surpluses anywhere in the world.

#### GRAIN

##### VANCOUVER—ARRIVAL AT PORT OF GRADES IN LESSER DEMAND

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a further supplementary question, related to the suggestion made by the minister in Vancouver yesterday that the port of Vancouver is headed for a new grains tie up. Will the minister tell the house what is being done to avoid that further difficulty confronting the farmers of western Canada?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Vancouver situation again developed into a problem with the arrival at Vancouver of grades and types of wheat which were not as much in demand as the types for which ships were in fact waiting. This resulted in large measure because of the failure of the authorities in loading box cars to load into those cars the appropriate wheat, and the Wheat Board has taken strong action in the form of indicating to the elevator companies involved that storage will not be paid on wheat which arrives there improperly when contrary orders were in the hands of the company.

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

This has been done in order to correct the situation and assure that the wheat which the Board wants to arrive will arrive at the proper time.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if he would really give us some solid bit of information and report to the house concerning who did represent Canada at the Canton Fair? Would he also say whether he meant to indicate that the railways had shipped to Vancouver grain of a different sort than that which had been ordered or requested.

**Mr. Lang:** I have indicated to the hon. member that I will do as he asks in respect of the first part of his question. The railways of course carried the grain to Vancouver which was carried there. The actual placing of the grain in the box cars is done by the local elevator agent, in accordance with orders supplied to the local agent. In many cases those orders were not filled accurately, with the proper grain going in the cars.

##### VANCOUVER—REPORTED SHORTAGE OF WHEAT FOR SHIPMENT

**Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question of the acting minister. I appreciate the background information he gave about the situation. I should like to ask the minister what immediate and remedial action is being taken to make up the shortage in respect of the 4½ million bushels of No. 2 Northern which is required at the port of Vancouver.

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** I believe I did cover that as well. The Canadian Wheat Board has issued the appropriate orders to the elevator companies this week and has taken steps to ensure that those orders will be followed so that the cars which go to Vancouver from the local elevators will carry the required wheat.

##### INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF TRANSPORT CONTROLLER

**Mr. George Muir (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister without Portfolio from Saskatoon. In view of the fact that we are now experiencing our second tangled grain mess in Vancouver is the government, even at this late date, considering appointing a transport controller who could iron out these situations?