

## MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

[English]

### GRAIN

#### DOMESTIC FEED GRAIN POLICY

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Meadow Lake (Mr. Nesdoly), to move the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely, the threat to Canadian agriculture created by the United States ban on the export of oilseed products, and the consequent threat of higher prices to Canadian consumers for meat, poultry and dairy products, and the urgent need for the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board to outline to parliament the government's proposals for a new policy on the sale and pricing of domestic feed grains.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar has given notice of his intention to propose the adjournment of the House to discuss the matter to which he has just alluded. The Chair has given very serious consideration to the hon. member's proposal. Obviously the matter proposed for discussion is of concern and importance to all members. It will also be appreciated that hon. members might want an opportunity to express their views in relation to the supply and cost of feed grains in advance of the policy statement which the minister has indicated would be made some time in the future.

The decision which the Chair has to make is whether such a debate should take place this very day in priority to the government legislation proposed for consideration later today. In other words, the point at issue is not the urgency of the matter but the urgency of debate this very day. My thought is that while the matter referred to by the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar is important and urgent, a parliamentary debate on it might well take place some time later. I would suggest that hon. members interested in this problem and anxious to have such a debate might review the situation as it develops in the days ahead and determine later whether an emergency debate under the terms of Standing Order 26 might be more appropriate at a later time.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

### GRAIN

#### FEED GRAINS—MEASURES TO OFFSET EFFECT OF UNITED STATES EXPORT EMBARGO ON CANADIAN SUPPLY AND FOOD PRICES

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister arising out of the decision of the United States government yesterday to place an embargo on exports of soybeans, soybean oil and cotton seed. Has the govern-

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ment yet prepared any contingency measures to assure that this step taken by the United States to restrict exports does not cause scarcities and even higher prices for essential foods in Canada?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, there has been a meeting of officials this morning and of cabinet itself to discuss this matter. We are looking at what the government might do if certain hypothetical conditions prevail. At this time, of course, the embargo is only for purposes of inventory. There is no action that we can announce at this time, but of course we are concerned about the matter and its possible consequences.

**Mr. Stanfield:** As the government could hardly have been taken by surprise in view of the advance warning by the President of the United States to some extent, has the government not developed any contingency plans? Is it, for example, considering restriction of the export from Canada of certain protein products?

**Mr. Trudeau:** As I said, Mr. Speaker, of course we have considered many possible actions, including the one mentioned by the Leader of the Opposition, but the government is not prepared to take any such action or choose among its various courses of action until such time as that action is required in view of the action of the United States.

**Mr. Stanfield:** In view of the acknowledged shortage of protein feeds in the country today and in view of this new development, is the government not prepared to take any measures at this time to head off a developing shortage, or is it simply going to wait and talk about contingency plans until a real emergency is upon us?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, the answer is, of course, that the government is prepared to take any action that is required. What I am saying is that the government today is not announcing any such action at this time.

#### FEED GRAIN—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT WHEAT BOARD WILL CONTROL

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the confusion and disorderly marketing that now exist in the United States and that country's inability to know even what supplies it has on hand, will the minister rise in his place and assure the House that he will not create the same kind of confusion and distress in Canada by taking certain grains out of the control of the Canadian Wheat Board as he has said he is preparing to do?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I have not said to the hon. member nor, so far as I know, to anyone else what I am preparing to do—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

**Mr. Lang:**—but I appreciate the hon. member in effect congratulating the government on the fact that in our system we do have a situation where we know very well and very fully the nature of our export commitments in