

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**GRAIN**

FINAL PAYMENT ON DURUM WHEAT

Since he has recently shown his interest for wheat growers by assuring them grants totaling \$100 million, would he tell the House whether or not he is now urging the Canadian government to give back to milk producers the \$10 million cut from their subsidies?

[*English*]

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, this question has been asked a number of times.

**Mr. Baldwin:** Why not answer it, then? This is supposed to be a question and answer period.

[*Translation*]

DAIRYING—DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF POLICY

**Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary.

Does the Minister of Agriculture think he will be in a position to announce the dairy policy for 1970-71 by March 31, 1970?

[*English*]

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. It will be announced before the new dairy year begins on April 1.

DAIRYING—PAYMENTS TO PRODUCERS TO CURTAIL PRODUCTION

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the serious problem of overproduction in the dairy industry, is the government going to follow a policy for that industry similar to the policy of payment for not planting as announced for wheat producers and initiate payments to dairy producers, to curtail production instead of letting the dairy industry suffer the present penalties for overproduction?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Dairy Commission and the Department of Agriculture are completing their discussions with the various marketing industries in the provinces as well as with Dairy Producer Representatives to find a better way of keeping production and consumption in balance.

**Mr. Baldwin:** No doubt so that the minister need not make a statement.

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the government going to give the \$10 million to the dairy producers on condition that they do not milk their cows?

**Mr. Baldwin:** Or the taxpayers.

**Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister without Portfolio who answers for the Wheat Board. Because of the concern of the Durum wheat producers of western Canada, will the minister inform the House if it has been decided that the board will make a final payment to the producers from the surplus now in the Durum wheat account?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The estimates tabled earlier today show that the government proposes to allow a sufficient amount to make up the deficit in the wheat, oats and barley accounts in last year's pool in such a way that the surplus which has accumulated to the Durum account will be payable to the Durum producers.

[*Later:*]

**Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister advise whether the amount of money available for the Durum wheat producers will be the \$6 million the producers are expecting.

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, it should be in that order or perhaps a little more.

**An hon. Member:** Should it not be \$48 million?

CLOSING OF SPRING-WHEAT POOL

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate on what date the pool for spring wheat will be closed?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio):** Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Baldwin:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Mackenzie on a supplementary.

**Mr. Korchinski:** It is a related question, Mr. Speaker, and not necessarily a supplementary.

**Mr. Speaker:** I believe quite a number of hon. members wish to ask supplementaries and they ought to have the opportunity of asking them. The hon. member for Peace River.