

*Inquiries of the Ministry***GRAIN****ALLOCATION OF BOX CARS TO THE LAKEHEAD AND VANCOUVER**

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In response to questions asked yesterday the minister advised the house that he will investigate the allegations of the president of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool that the pool has space at its terminals at Vancouver and the Lakehead and that only half the required number of box cars are being allocated for unloading. He replied that he would investigate and inform the house of his findings. Has he been able to do so and, if so, what are his findings?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I do not have that information yet. I shall be in Winnipeg on Monday, obtain the information, and report to the house on Tuesday, when I am here.

Mr. Benjamin: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the statement of the president of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool has a direct bearing on the telegram sent by the commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board to which the minister replied yesterday, will the minister investigate the allegations of the president of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and advise this house on Monday whether enough box cars will be allocated to those terminals to fill the space there?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I will be in Winnipeg on Monday. I will try on Tuesday to do as the hon. member suggests.

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE ON DELIVERY QUOTA

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister now assure us that farmers of western Canada will be able to deliver the five bushel quota, or in the alternative, that in view of the sale just made, which means a few million dollars, quotas will be increased to more than five bushels?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have answered similar questions almost every day for the last few weeks. There is nothing to be added. As you yourself might say, Mr. Speaker, the question is hypothetical. I have read

on a number of occasions declarations by the chief commissioner of the Wheat Board to the effect that the five bushel quota will be met by the end of the month.

Mr. Woolliams: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the minister, on motions, at some time in the near future will list the delivery points in western Canada that are down to as little as a two bushel delivery quota, and that have no hope of reaching the five bushel quota?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker I keep in touch with these things on an every-day basis. I have the latest figures before me at the moment. I will be glad to send to my hon. friend information about the number of stations on three, four and five bushels.

ALLEGED PADDING OF ORDERS TO SECURE BOX CAR ALLOCATIONS

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister investigate allegations of the Canadian Wheat Board that certain elevator companies are padding their numbers of shipping orders in order to secure box cars they are not entitled to?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I will add that to my shopping list for Monday.

Mr. Baldwin: When for?—next Christmas?

TRANSPORT**BORDEN-TORMENTINE FERRY—SERVICE BELOW CAPACITY**

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Transport is now in a position to answer the question I asked last Friday. The acting Minister of Transport took it as notice.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I assume the hon. member's question has to do with the number of passengers being carried on the Prince Edward Island ferry. In the hon. member's absence a few days ago I explained that we were quite prepared to examine the matter and to see whether we needed to change the present pattern. The problem seems to arise from the fact that the passenger-to-car ratio is not steady. In any event I am having the whole matter looked into to see whether we can make changes that will enable us to accommodate more passengers.