

### Oral Questions

than he would on the international market? That is a simple question.

**Mr. Lang:** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** How much less?

**Mr. Lang:** The simple fact is that if he sells to the Canadian Wheat Board he gets the full value of the Canadian Wheat Board initial price and final payment. If, instead, he chooses to accept a total amount without any hope of final payment, he does obtain less, but that is his choice.

**Mr. Horner (Crowfoot):** This is an insult to the western farmer. Get a judgeship from Trudeau while you can.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. members will appreciate that much of the question period has been spent on this very important matter. I recognize that it is very important, but we must not forget that there are other matters of interest to other members of the House of Commons. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar has a supplementary question. We will then try, in the last three or four minutes before the end of the question period, to look at another aspect of Canadian life.

#### FEED GRAIN—REQUEST THAT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS BOARD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PURCHASE UNTIL LEGAL STATUS VIS-À-VIS WHEAT BOARD CLARIFIED

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek some clarification from the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. According to my understanding, the Canadian Wheat Board is not legally entitled under its present act to buy grain from the Agricultural Products Board. Will the minister delay putting the Agricultural Products Board into operation as a purchaser of western grain until such time as the legal status of the two boards is clarified under the Canadian Wheat Board Act?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** If I were to give the hon. member a legal opinion, it would not be to confirm his premise.

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### CONSUMER AFFAIRS

#### MONITORING OF SALES TAX AND TARIFF CUTS TO ENSURE BENEFITS REACH CONSUMERS—REQUEST FOR REPORT

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs from whom I have been attempting for many months to get a copy of the report on the monitoring of the February budget changes. Is the minister prepared to honour the statement he made on September 7 that the report would be ready about the middle of September, which has now passed, and can he now give the House a firm date when this report, real or imaginary, will be made available to the House and the

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

public, or are we to regard this whole thing as nothing but a worthless sham?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I said in the House on September 7 that it was expected that the work on the report would be completed about the middle of September, and I stand by the rest of what I said in the answer to that question.

**Mr. Stanfield:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The minister said that the report would be ready by the middle of September. I read the answer and I want the minister to stop fooling around with the House.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I have here the *Hansard* extract. I said:

Work on this has been going on. I expect it to be completed about the middle of September.

This is consistent with the answer I have just given.

[Later:]

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to rise on a question of privilege but this is a matter which has been before the House for a number of months. I should like to read the answer given on September 7 by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. He said:

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is incorrect in suggesting that I have been refusing to prepare a report. Work on this has been going on. I expect it to be completed about the middle of September. It will be delivered to the Minister of Finance, following which I trust its conclusions will be made available appropriately to the House and the public

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** What's your problem, Bob?

**Mr. Stanfield:** Hon. members opposite may not regard it as of any importance that the minister has been giving the House an assurance on this subject for a matter of seven months and has not lived up to it. I say there can be no doubt, reading that answer, that the report was to be completed by the middle of September, and I want to know when the minister is going to bring this long delayed report to the House. What is he trying to hide?

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition neglected to point out that there was a period between the word "September" and the word "It". He slid over that in his usual manner when raising his point of privilege. I said the report would be presented when it was completed, and I am going to stick to that.

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### URBAN AFFAIRS

#### POSSIBILITY OF GREATER ASSISTANCE TO SMALL TOWNS IN FINANCING SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs responsible for CMHC. In view of the urgency of the clean-up program on the Great Lakes system and the