

## GRAIN

ALLOCATION OF BOX CARS—DISCRIMINATION  
AGAINST WHEAT POOLS

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that he advised us on February 21 that he is personally supervising the activities of the transportation committee and the allocation of freight cars for grain movement, and in view of the fact that 5,000 fewer cars have been loaded so far this year compared with the same period last year, can the minister advise the house as to the result of the discussions held on Sunday with the heads of the two major Canadian railways? Will he also advise us what action is being taken to prevent discrimination against the prairie wheat pools in the allocation of box cars?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I know of nothing which can be done now to bring more wheat to the different ports than what is being done at the moment. If the hon. member has more specific cases to submit to me, I will be glad to listen to them and bring them to the attention of the Wheat Board and the transportation committee.

**Mr. Benjamin:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool requires 1,500 to 2,000 box cars to fill the space they now have available in their terminals at the Lakehead, will the minister advise what action is being taken to provide these additional cars at the country elevators of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool?

**Mr. Pepin:** Mr. Speaker, I had a report just this morning from the Wheat Board. I will read part of it:

Stocks at the Lakehead this morning amounted to 65.6 million bushels. Cars in transit and on track were 5,808, roughly 12 million bushels. If the terminals can handle 78 million then sufficient grain has now been loaded to fill the terminals by the opening of navigation.

I could go on.

**Mr. Benjamin:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the minister has completely avoided my question. I am perfectly aware that the terminals he is talking about are full. I have just said that it is a fact that the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool terminals are not full. They require 1,500 cars to fill them.

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that this is a matter of debate and not a point of order.

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** I have a supplementary question for the Minister, Mr. Speaker. Has the C.P.R. given any concrete evidence that it is trying to maintain at least the same type of service as the C.N.R., which is poor at best?

**Mr. Pepin:** Mr. Speaker, the performance of both railways in recent weeks has been excellent.

**Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce whether it is a fact that 5,000 more box cars were loaded last year than this year. If so, would it not be helpful if the minister would remove himself from the position of special supervisor of this activity so that the delivery of grain might be improved?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

[*Translation*]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF  
YUGOSLAV DIPLOMATS

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, may I mention the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of Mr. Vasil Grivcev, Yugoslavia's foreign trade secretary. With him are the other members of the delegation and His Excellency Mr. Tode Curuvija, Yugoslavia's ambassador to Canada.

Mr. Grivcev and myself have just concluded some very useful consultations on the subject of trade between our two countries. The minister will now be going to Toronto where he will meet with representatives of the Ontario government and businessmen of that province. Then, he will be going to Montreal for talks with representatives of the Quebec government and Montreal businessmen.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the house will wish to join me in extending to them a very cordial welcome.

[*English*]

## OIL

PARTICIPATION OF ACTING MINISTER  
IN WASHINGTON TALKS

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines