

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

can the minister tell the House whether he and his colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, will publish these regulations and let the House and the farmers know where they are heading?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio):** Very full information about this program and its application to individual farmers was made available in a mail-out to every permitholder in the prairie provinces. It is, of course, not possible to put the regulations themselves in place until the items which are before this House, on which they would in part be founded, are approved.

**Mr. Gleave:** Since the minister has himself changed the regulations by public announcement at public meetings since that pamphlet was produced, I again ask him if he will move with all speed to get these regulations into the hands of the public?

WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—  
ESTABLISHMENT OF APPEAL BOARD

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** The minister indicated that an appeal board would be set up. Since many farmers propose to make their plans on the basis of any decisions which the appeal board might reach, may I ask whether the board will be established before seeding time and whether the cases before it will be disposed of in time for plans to be formulated?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio):** Provision along those lines will be made in the regulations which are being developed. Adequate information has been made available to farmers which should guide them in their plantings, and of course the appeal board will be dealing only with difficult and particular applications of the regulations to certain factual situations. I do not think that should lead to any uncertainty on the part of the farmers.

**Mr. Korchinski:** What would happen in the case of a farmer who was hailed out last year, put his land into summerfallow the previous year, and is going to put a crop in this year? Is he going to sell no crop at all? Will no consideration be given to his needs in these critical circumstances?

WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM  
REGULATIONS

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre):** In light of the answers given by the minister, and of the letters and petitions which many

[Mr. Gleave.]

of us have received protesting against the acreage reduction program, would the hon. gentleman, in formulating these regulations, consider making provision under the new delivery quota system for farmers who had no wheat carried over, and is further consideration being given to the situation of farmers who reduced their wheat acreage and increased their summerfallow last year?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio):** As far as the second part of the question is concerned, it has already been made clear what action will be taken to recognize additional summerfallow put in last year. Farmers without surpluses are at least in a position where they can grow non-wheat crops with some security, knowing that there will be less acreage in these crops and therefore the likelihood of a better market. Should they feel they must grow wheat, they can do so in secure knowledge of what the quota will be on the balance of their land.

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

**Mr. Roland Godin (Porineuf):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question on the grain trade for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

In view of the fact that the Wheat Board has been selling barley, since the fall of 1969, for 78 cents and even for 76 cents per bushel, whereas they charged \$1.07 per bushel in eastern Canada, could the minister tell the House whether or not the province of Quebec may expect to benefit from preferential export prices if it becomes independent as a result of the elections of April 29?

[English]

TRANSPORT

SECOND VOYAGE OF "MANHATTAN"—AUTHORIZATION AND DATE OF TRIP

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** I have a question for the Minister of Transport. I am sure all hon. members learned with regret of his sad bereavement. In the circumstances I will direct the question either to the Prime Minister or to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, since this is a matter of considerable public interest and the House is to close tomorrow for a number of days. Can the House be informed whether the *Manhattan* has been cleared for passage through the Canadian Arctic and when will this voyage begin?