

*Supply—Trade and Commerce*

he have the wheat board adjust their price so as to remain competitive?

**Mr. Churchill:** The government should take some action.

**Mr. Olson:** The government has taken some action. It has already taken enough action today to take the steam out of all the speeches that were going to be made this afternoon.

**Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** Don't count on that.

**Mr. Olson:** What would hon. members opposite have done? Would they put the Canadian Wheat Board into a price war with the United States treasury?

**Mr. Woolliams:** We would not let the United States take over Canada.

**Mr. Olson:** I do not think they would, and I do not think that the hon. member for Bow River really seriously suggested that no appropriate action has been taken.

**Mr. Roxburgh:** He is a cattle man anyway, not a wheat farmer.

**Mr. Olson:** I think the Canadian Wheat Board has acted very correctly and responsibly in adjusting prices to meet the new competitive situation in the world.

**Mr. Rapp:** Tell that to the farmers in Medicine Hat.

**Mr. Olson:** The hon. member for Bow River also told us how sad he was that we had lost a portion of the Japanese market, and certainly that is a very serious loss. But I wonder whether the hon. member has done his homework in this respect too. Is he aware, for example, that as far back as 1964 there was a very aggressive undertaking by interests in the United States to set up a number of schools and seminars in Japan to train Japanese bakers in future to use American winter wheat?

In this regard I should like to read a short extract from the Searle Grain Company Limited weekly letter for July 8, 1964:

In a further effort to expand utilization of United States wheat in Japan, U.S. wheat growers, in co-operation with several other groups and agencies, have just launched an intensive regional program of training the future leaders of Japan's baking industry on the proper use of flour milled from U.S. wheat blends.

[Mr. Olson.]

The article goes on to indicate that there had been a very aggressive program in an attempt to get these bakers to use flour with the higher content of United States winter wheat. In spite of all this the Canadian Wheat Board since that time has been able to hold and expand the volume of wheat going to Japan until now. I think we should commend the Canadian Wheat Board on this.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Yes—until now. How this man opposite can change.

**Mr. Olson:** This man opposite has not changed. He has always been an ardent supporter of the Canadian Wheat Board and remains so today.

**Mr. Churchill:** And of the Liberal government.

**Mr. Olson:** I hope that hon. gentlemen opposite will forget that untrue statement that was flung across the house a number of times, namely that this member was ever opposed to selling wheat to Communist China. That statement is false, and as far as I am concerned they know it is.

**Mr. Woolliams:** What about your leader at that time?

**Mr. Olson:** He will have to answer for what he said. I will answer for what I said, and I did not say that. If hon. gentleman had read the press the next day they would have found that the hon. member for Medicine Hat disagreed with that statement; they forget that.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I think the government has taken appropriate action, that the trend has now been reversed and the price of wheat is moving up again. I think that is commendable. Much remains to be done and I hope that the minister and his department will finish the work. What is clear to me even today is that the wheat board, with full co-operation from the government, is doing everything possible to sell the maximum volume of wheat at the best price which is obtainable. Their record of action during the past two or three weeks bears that out in very clear terms.

**Mr. Nasserden:** Mr. Chairman, this is one of those occasions, having listened to the speech we have just heard from across the way, when one should reflect upon the history of the party to which the hon. gentleman belonged and the stand it took regarding sales of grain by Canada, particularly during the period when the former leader of the