

## Divorce Bill

that have been announced by the board and here in the house by the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Sharp). We feel this is not the time to have too much discussion or argument about who went to China when. The important thing is that this contract has been concluded; that the Canadian wheat board has been assisted by this government, as it was assisted by the previous government, in terms of making it possible for the board to guarantee the loans. We welcome the various items of detail that were given to us in the statement made this evening.

We agree with the remarks made by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Hamilton) and the hon. member for Medicine Hat (Mr. Olson) to the effect that we must look for other markets as well as the tremendous market in mainland China. I think it is perhaps not out of place for us to note that the problem of food, the problem of hunger, the problem of poverty, all those things that are economic, are world wide problems and it is good to note that there are times when in pursuit of settling those problems we get around the difficulties of diplomatic relationships.

It does seem to me that if we find it possible to deal with the people of mainland China in terms of trading our wheat for the commodities they have to sell to us, the day must come when we will recognize the *de facto* government that is there and try and get China into the councils of the nations of the world so we can do something to remove the causes of friction and tension between east and west. By the same token, if we can sell our farm products, as the hon. member for Qu'Appelle has suggested, to the countries that he listed, I think we not only help to find markets for the products of our farms but can play our part in helping to make one world out of a planet that all too often is torn with strife and dissension.

We congratulate the wheat board on what it has done. We are glad that this government, like the previous government, has been able to give the backing the wheat board needed; and we congratulate the farmers of western Canada on the benefit there is for them in the announcement that has been made tonight.

**Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale):** Mr. Speaker, could I ask the minister just one question for clarification in regard to the statement he made. Mention was made of the fact that 41 million bushels were left of the previous contract. Are they included in this contract from 112 million to 186 million bushels?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman from Qu'Appelle will remember, the Chinese corporation was only obliged to buy a minimum quantity of wheat, and the maximum quantity was an obligation upon the Canadian wheat board to deliver if called upon. The Chinese decided not to call upon any further wheat under the old contract and they replaced it by the present contract.

**Hon. Theogene Ricard (St. Hyacinthe-Bagot):** Mr. Speaker, although I do not want to speak at length on this sale of wheat—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I think it is a well recognized rule that when a statement is made on motions, as was this one, there is a comment from one member of each party and there is no debate.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** That is my understanding. Indeed, I had some qualms about allowing the hon. member for Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale (Mr. Rapp) to submit a question to the minister. I think we should not pursue the matter any further.

**Mr. Ricard:** Another kind of closure.

**Mr. Rapp:** Mr. Speaker, my question was just to clarify one point in the minister's statement.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I appreciate that.

## DIVORCE

AUTHORIZATION FOR SENATE TO DISSOLVE  
OR ANNUL MARRIAGES

**Mr. Speaker:** I have received a message from the Senate informing this house that the Senate has passed Bill No. C-93, an act authorizing the Senate of Canada to dissolve or annul marriages, with amendments. The amendments are as follows:

Amendments made by the Senate to the Bill C-93, sent up from the House of Commons, intitled: "An act authorizing the Senate of Canada to dissolve or annul marriages".

1. Page 1, line 9. Strike out line 9 and substitute the following:

"subject to the provisions of subsections (2) and (3)."

2. Page 1, lines 28 to 32 inclusive. Strike out subclause (3) and substitute the following:

"(3) If the bill referred to in subsection (2) is disposed of otherwise than by becoming law or by reason of prorogation or dissolution of parliament, the resolution dissolving or annulling the marriage shall have full force and effect on the date on which the bill has been so disposed of."

3. Page 2, lines 1 to 10 inclusive. Strike out subclause (4) and substitute therefor the following:

"(4) Where a petition or a bill seeking the annulment or modification of a resolution of the Senate dissolving or annulling a marriage has been disposed of by reason of prorogation or dissolution of parliament, and a new petition and a draft bill to the same effect are not filed with the clerk