

*Canadian Livestock Feed Board*

people will be making an awful lot of profit, but if you mention it to them they will say they are having a hard time.

● (9:40 p.m.)

This is something that should be supervised by the minister. Why do things become so expensive to transport from Port Arthur to eastern Canada? The western farmers pay for the transportation of this grain to Port Arthur, so why is it so expensive to transport it from there to eastern Canada? I have often heard it suggested that, because of transportation costs, feed grain that sells at \$2 per hundred pounds in Port Arthur sells for \$6 in eastern Canada.

Perhaps the minister should initiate a study of the profits that are being made. I suggest that he keep alert in respect of these increasing costs and make an effort to determine whether some speculation is taking place. Perhaps he should see that some sanctions are taken against people who are making undue profits in this regard. Something should be done in a positive way by the Department of Transport, perhaps by reducing or stopping subsidies, to see that these excessively high transportation costs are eliminated.

The minister as well as the board should report to this house in respect of transportation costs. This is something that would be of interest to the agriculture committee, if that is the committee that will consider this subject. I did not inquire of the minister as to what committee would consider this whole situation, and there is some doubt because the minister responsible is the Minister of Forestry and Rural Development. I hope he will keep in close touch with this situation.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Mongrain:** Mr. Chairman, in my province people have a habit of saying that certain colours cause violent reactions in some species of creatures which God has put on this earth. The red badges worn by some members of this house tonight have a similar effect on certain members of the opposition, since we are now witnessing the sort of event which should take place on more worthy occasions.

We are in fact trying to decide on the location of the headquarters of this feed board. Those who, like myself, have listened to the debate with an open mind, which is necessary under the circumstances, will notice that the House of Commons will never find an acceptable solution with the spirit

[*Mr. Langlois (Mégantic).*]

pervading this house at the present time, since one member suggests Vancouver, another Chilliwack, and others Rouyn, Montreal, Quebec, and Mégantic. I think this proves that the bill we are now studying—

**Mr. Langlois (Mégantic):** I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Chairman. I never suggested Mégantic, I said anywhere, any place which would suit the Canadian farmers.

**Mr. Mongrain:** Mr. Chairman, I am very happy to see that my colleague does not show this narrow-mindedness. I will say this about him, he is not narrow-minded. He was misunderstood. But I want to say this, Mr. Chairman, that if the decision is left to this house, we will never get anywhere, because each is thinking of his home town and his own political interests, and as the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette) said earlier: this is unavoidable.

I am not suggesting that the headquarters of this board should be located in Trois-Rivières, although I can think of many reasons why it would be the ideal place. But I think the minister was right in spelling out in the bill that the decision regarding the best place for the establishment of the headquarters of this board should be left to its members who will not be influenced as much as we might be by electoral and partisan considerations and who will surely look after the interests of all farmers affected by this legislation. As far as I am concerned, I have no objection to Ottawa being chosen. However, many members will agree with me that, for all sorts of reasons, there is no doubt congestion within the civil service in Ottawa as evidenced by a great many incidents. But I would have no objection to establishing the board in Ottawa; it would be acceptable to me. Someone mentioned Vancouver a moment ago, but I do not think he was serious.

Mr. Chairman, I will make my closing remarks as brief as I can, appealing to the hon. members to remain calm even if our friends, the Liberals, are overwhelmed with partisan joy because their convention has never been as successful in past years; even though this unexpected fervour on the part of the Liberals seems to spur on and challenge our friends of the Conservative party who want to show the world that they can do just as well; even though our friends of the Social Credit party who have also just returned from a sort of retreat are convinced they should prove to the rest of the country that