

I want to put some facts on the record tonight to assure the house that when I speak I have facts to back up what I am saying. I have said that in Alberta today there are 106 points on a unit quota. The farmer can sell 400 bushels of wheat. He might have 12,000 bushels but he can sell only 400. In Saskatchewan the story is different. There are 38 points on a unit basis there. In Alberta there are 220 points on a one-bushel quota. In Saskatchewan there are 399 points. In Alberta there are 189 points on a two bushel quota and in Saskatchewan there are 574. Is that not discrimination?

I am glad to see here tonight a fellow Albertan who represents the constituency of Medicine Hat. I am sure his constituents will be glad I brought this subject up and I am sure he will get support from the Alberta farmers tonight. I am sure he will say to the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Winters) "Get busy and help farmers in Alberta. Equalize the quotas so our farmers will get some money". This is a local issue. The other day I asked a question in the house. The Minister of Trade and Commerce was not here but the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Pepin) informed me that the farmers could take out cash advances. I am glad to hear about cash advances. Who brought in cash advances? It was the Conservative government that did so. All the Liberal government brought in was chaos, and they are bringing in more every day. Our farmers have wheat piled on the ground. They do not want cash advances; they want to sell that wheat because for the last ten years they have been used to selling it. When the Conservative government was in office we sold the wheat, and the Liberal government which followed it used our markets for four years and continued to sell wheat. Now we are losing our markets and wheat is piling up on the prairies. What is the government going to do about it?

Here is a telegram I received from two points ten miles inside the Saskatchewan border. It reads as follows:

Points nearest to us on Saskatchewan side are on two bushel quotas and most cases have room for three.

There is discrimination against farmers in Alberta. Recently I brought up in the house the matter of box cars. I was informed that these points could obtain all the box cars they wanted but they could not get a shipping order from the wheat board. I investigated this charge and I found that the terminals in Vancouver and Fort William are

Loss to Canada of World Wheat Market

loaded with wheat, but one cannot expect the railroad to fill up their cars with wheat when they cannot unload them. That is the responsibility of this government. What action is it taking? It is taking no action. The Japanese market is lost to us and the Canadian government is doing nothing about it. We find that the Chinese are not interested in buying wheat from us at the present time, nor is the U.S.S.R.

This reminds me of that great film called "Mr. Pearson" which I saw one Sunday evening. Our Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) sat in the car while the Russians bought some wheat. I say to the government, do not wait for them to drop in again because they might not do it. The Minister of Trade and Commerce is like a goose sitting on its nest waiting for another egg to hatch. I wish the minister were here tonight.

It is the responsibility of this government, of the Prime Minister and of the Minister of Trade and Commerce on behalf of the Canadian Wheat Board to find markets for our Canadian wheat. The former minister of agriculture was criticized; but who sold our wheat? He and the former minister of trade and commerce travelled round this world and found markets for our wheat. Now we find it piling up in the prairies. How would members of the government like to change places with our farmers and sell 400 bushels of wheat to pay their operating expenses? This is downright shameful. The government is not interested.

Whom do we find here tonight? We find the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Laing). I congratulate him for being here tonight. He is making an effort to speak on different subjects, including housing. It is not his fault that he has to speak for others. Somebody said the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Greene) is here. I am sure he will be able to tell us what this government is going to do to straighten out the very serious situation we are facing today. The economic situation in Canada will continue to deteriorate unless the government makes an effort to find markets for Canadian wheat. Unless the government shows some interest in the wheat sales, the farmers will only be able to look forward to a five or six bushel quota. This is a serious situation.

• (9:10 p.m.)

It seems we are going back to the Liberal days of 1953 and 1954. I remember those years, Mr. Speaker, and what years they