

Division

• (9:40 p.m.)

I really urge members of the Committee to get on with the work of approving this bill and let us get this money out into the farmers' hands and get the stabilization plan in place for the future.

Unfortunately, all those requests have been refused. We have continuously had to face filibustering with regard to all bills deferred to the Committee on Agriculture.

The hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) mentioned earlier some of the difficulties that exist in agriculture; we are trying to establish a planning policy aimed at the future. It is regrettable that we cannot get the co-operation of the opposition. In order to show how much members of the Committee on Agriculture and the present government wish to establish farm legislation capable of solving problems, I shall point out that the committee sat until 7:30 on the morning of March 23 last, for the very purpose of facing the systematic opposition of the hon. member for Crowfoot and the hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski). The latter did their utmost to hinder the progress of the committee that wanted to adopt a bill establishing a national marketing board. That legislative proposal has not yet been adopted.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the commitment made by this government to the farmers was made on April 29 last, when motion for first reading was moved. And it is since that date that the minister responsible for the Wheat Board has been appealing to the members of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, after having met with all agricultural organizations, in order to have that bill adopted.

I shall not dwell on the subject any longer, but I wonder what interests some of the members of the committee mean to fight for. Those of the producers or those of the grain elevator owners? It would appear that their sympathy lies with the latter.

The present policy of the government promotes the sale rather than the storage of grain. Today, the minister alluded to the increase in our export markets this year as compared to last year's. Our exports improved considerably last year, more specifically by 10 per cent, over past years. This proves to what extent we do not encourage the storage of our grain in elevators, but want to adopt a dynamic policy that the farmers' grain might be sold to allow them to reap the benefits to which they are entitled.

This bill must be passed without further delay. It is the government's wish. When we vote in a few minutes the whole of Canada will know who the true friends of the farmers are.

[English]

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, in the one minute left I want to say that I have never heard so much whining, whimpering and screaming about a filibuster. The debate, until this bill came back, had taken just over 12 hours in the House. There are 16 amendments before the House. These amendments are wanted by the farming community of this country and we intend to debate them.

Some day hon. members and the government opposite, if they do not do something about the economic conditions in this country, will have a filibuster which is recognized as such. This is not a filibuster. These are amendments offered on behalf of the farmers of this country, and it is about time the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) recognized this fact.

Mr. Douglas A. Hogarth (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I was challenged to enter this debate and was more than happy to do so. Only the expiration of time prevents my answering the nonsense of the hon. member.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. It being 9.45 p.m., it is my duty, pursuant to Section (9) of Standing Order 58, to interrupt these proceedings and forthwith put the questions necessary to dispose of the motions now before the House.

The House divided on the amendment (Mr. Lewis) which was negatived on the following division:

• (9:50 p.m.)

YEAS

Messrs:

Aiken
Alexander
Alkenbrack
Baldwin
Bell
Benjamin
Bigg
Blackburn
Brewin
Burton
Cadieu
Caouette
Carter
Crouse

Dinsdale
Dionne
Fairweather
Forrestall
Gauthier
Gilbert
Gleave
Grills
Gundlock
Hales
Harkness
Hees
Horner
Howard (Skeena)