

answerable to the Minister of Transport will have the power to impose sanctions on the Wheat Board, which is represented by a different federal Minister. As well, there is the Canada Grain Commission, which is under the authority of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan). According to this clause, the Administrator can impose sanctions and monitor the performance of the Canada Grain Commission. Therefore, we see another level of bureaucracy in which one Government agency will have the power to regulate two other Government agencies. In light of that, I am surprised that the Conservative Party does not support the motions moved by the Hon. Member for Regina West (Mr. Benjamin).

Since Canadian farmers are very supportive of the Canadian Wheat Board, I believe it is important that we do not permit the Administrator of the Senior Grain Transportation Committee to hold authority over the Wheat Board. I believe it is time for greater economic democracy in our country where ordinary farmers, in this case, can have more say over their work and the manner in which their grain is transported and sold. An example of this economic democracy is the Wheat Board Advisory Committee which is elected by the farmers and overwhelmingly supports the Canadian Wheat Board. Yet a majority of Members in the House support an agency that will have the power to impose sanctions on the Canadian Wheat Board. As a Member from a mixed farming area where the Wheat Board has much support, I do not want to give the Administrator, a bureaucrat who is not directly accountable to Members of Parliament, that kind of power.

While I wish the Conservatives would call for more economical democracy and freedom for the ordinary farmers of this land, the opposite is taking place as a result of this singular power being given to an Administrator.

Mr. Malone: Like Jack Horner.

Mr. Nystrom: It is like giving Jack Horner all that power in his new job as head of CN. The Hon. Member for Crowfoot (Mr. Malone) is concerned about Jack Horner. That is why he should support Motions No. 36, No. 37 and No. 38.

My colleague, the Hon. Member for Regina West (Mr. Benjamin), is suggesting that sanctions should only apply to the railway companies, the Jack Horners of the world in the CN and CP. If we are going to have the Grain Transportation Committee, then it should have the power to impose sanctions only on the rail line companies.

● (1610)

Mr. Malone: On the line.

Mr. Nystrom: We do have a Wheat Board and we do have a Grain Commission and we have farmers who are involved in the Wheat Board and in the UGG. Therefore, it is for reasons such as these that I think my friends in the Conservative Party should be very enthusiastic to lend their support to this particular motion before the House. I do not think there are any farmers in my riding who would support a Bill that would place the Canadian Wheat Board in a position which is

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subordinate to the Administrator of the Senior Grain Transportation Committee. We should be responding to the wishes of those farmers when we debate legislation in the House.

The three amendments before us—as I think everyone knows, but just to make it clear—would take away the ability of the Administrator to levy fines on any system participants, except for the two railway companies. I think that is very important. I have already mentioned the reasons that I think it is very important. The Administrator would not have the right, if we pass these motions before the House, to fine the Canadian Wheat Board, and it is the farmers' funds that are in the pool account in the Canadian Wheat Board. It is as if the Government through the Administrator imposed a fine on the farmers of this country, and I do not support that. I do not think the Conservative Party should be supporting that since many of their Members represent prairie ridings in Saskatchewan and elsewhere.

Mr. Malone: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nystrom: I see that we have now the conversion on the road to Damascus of the Hon. Member for Crowfoot. Perhaps he will convince his big city colleague, the Hon. Member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn) to support this very reasonable and very democratic amendment which will give the farmers a little more freedom and more liberty in our economic system in Canada.

Mr. Malone: Freedom to starve.

Mr. Blenkarn: This is nonsense.

Mr. Nystrom: The Conservative Party's Member from Toronto, who is an expert on the Prairies of course, says it is nonsense—

An Hon. Member: He is as great an expert as the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans).

Mr. Nystrom: —to make sure that the farmers have more freedom and more clout in the marketplace. I am sure my farmers will be very interested to hear that a Conservative Member from the big city of Toronto thinks they have too much power and authority and wants to impose another bureaucrat on the farmers to police them, to impose sanctions on them, to take money from them. That, Mr. Speaker, is not at all what I stand for in this House.

Mr. Blenkarn: You don't know what to stand for.

Mr. Nystrom: I think it is very important that this power be given to police the railways. In my riding we have all kinds of rail lines over which farmers have had trouble with the rail line companies. I think of a line that goes from Preeceville through Lintlaw, through Nut Mountain and on to Kelvington. I have met many times with farmers who live along that rail line and who have shown me how the rail line is not being kept up, how the tracks have been warped and how the trains when going down that line could go only at a few miles per hour. I can think of other rail lines in my constituency. I could name