

be stored. We realize that there should be some reduction in wheat acreage because until we reduce the surplus on hand, we cannot get the prices to which we are entitled. I think, Mr. Chairman, that is all I need say upon that at present, because we shall have an opportunity later to go into the matter in greater detail.

The Minister of Agriculture has given us a part of the report of the advisory committee on wheat, but since all members are, I think, greatly interested in that report, I should like to see it placed on *Hansard* in full, or at least tabled.

I would also suggest that the Minister of Trade and Commerce investigate the reasons why grades have been cut down during the past months. Several of my neighbours, when they threshed their grain, got grade No. 1, but afterwards that was cut down, in some instances, to No. 3—a lower grade for exactly the same wheat. There is something rotten in Denmark, if I may use the expression, something radically wrong with our grading system when that kind of thing is permitted to go on. It means that our farmers are being robbed, and I would suggest that the minister provide a remedy.

When our group came here last November, we placed on the order paper, in the name of the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Johnston), a resolution reading as follows:

Whereas the price of farm machinery, all costs of living and farm wages have increased due to the war;

Therefore be it resolved,

That in the opinion of this house, parliament should immediately take such steps as are necessary to ensure the farmers of Canada a fixed price of not less than one dollar per bushel for number one northern wheat at their local elevator, on at least the first 2,000 bushels of the 1941 crop.

In case the Minister of Agriculture or the government and its supporters should think that is an extravagant price, I should like to quote from a pamphlet of the Saskatchewan Liberal Association, printed by Commercial Printers Limited, Regina. It reads:

European countries are willing to trade.

The Liberal party is willing to trade.

Trade will bring dollar Wheat.

Dollar wheat will end your troubles.

Wear shirts, wear shoes, wear pants, wear coats, traded from those who eat your wheat.

Mr. TRIPP: We have had dollar wheat since that circular was issued.

Mr. FAIR: If the hon. member in the corner will keep quiet, he will have his chance to say all he wishes when I have

finished. I was going on to say, Mr. Chairman, that dollar wheat is exactly what we are recommending. The circular continues:

Dollar wheat will run your farm and pay your taxes.

Dollar wheat will pay the hired help and pay your repair bill.

Dollar wheat will pay your insurance and buy your wife a new dress.

The circular ends with the words in large type, "Vote Liberal."

Mr. TRIPP: They did vote Liberal.

Mr. FAIR: And they have been sorry ever since. I may say, in answer to the hon. member who interrupted, that it is a good thing we have an election every few years because, while the people may make a mistake once we remember the old saying, "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time."

An hon. MEMBER: You have done it twice.

Mr. FAIR: I have represented fairly—and I say "fairly" advisedly—the people who sent me here, and I shall continue to do so for as long as they see fit to send me here.

The group with which I am associated recommend that the government take immediate steps to pay one dollar a bushel at the local elevator for the first 2,000 bushels of wheat. Again, this may be claimed to be impossible. According, however, to the figures just given by the hon. member for Portage la Prairie, 35 per cent of our farmers sow less than 50 acres, and 62 per cent, less than 100 acres. We cannot expect a number of these farmers to raise 2,000 bushels, and if they do not raise it, naturally they cannot deliver it. Quite a number of them will not deliver more than one or two hundred bushels. I believe that our proposal is fair and will give agriculture a chance to pay its way; and if agriculture prospers, I believe that the rest of Canada will prosper as well, because, as I have pointed out on several occasions, when the west is prosperous, eastern Canada is prosperous also. I have on former occasions quoted figures in this house showing that in 1926, when wheat averaged \$1.40 a bushel, western Canada purchased from eastern Canada approximately \$82,000,000 worth of farm machinery. That was just one item alone. Then in 1932 and 1933 when wheat was away down in price, to the lowest price in three or four hundred years, the west's purchases of farm implements dropped to around \$8,000,000, or only ten per cent of what we purchased in reasonably good times.