

The Address—Mr. A. C. Stewart

the C.C.F. moved their amendment, instead of following the usual practice and striking out all the words after "that", they agreed with most of the amendment of the Conservatives and added only a few touching words. The C.C.F., of course, never totally agree with anybody. In connection with that and with this unholy alliance that is taking place in this house, I should like to quote Mr. Coldwell, speaking at Brantford on May 26. The newspaper article is headed "Unholy Alliance Seen by Coldwell" and reads in part as follows:

Asserting Premier Duplessis and George Drew, Progressive Conservative leader, have entered into an "unholy alliance," Mr. Coldwell told a political campaign meeting "a vote for a Tory candidate is a vote for another form of invisible government at Ottawa controlled by the irresponsible hand of Maurice Duplessis.

I am sorry that the hon. member for Papineau (Mr. Houde) is not in his seat—I have not seen him there yet—though he has not been coupled in this article. It continues:

He referred to an address by Mr. Drew in Flin Flon, Manitoba, in which the Progressive Conservative leader quoted Mr. Coldwell as having advised voters: "If you can't vote C.C.F., then vote Liberal." "I have said no such thing," Mr. Coldwell said.

He does not need to say it any more out in our country.

The main complaint of the opposition in their amendment is with regard to markets. I think that complaint was fairly well answered by the Prime Minister himself. If later on there is any doubt about that, I think the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) will be quite capable of dealing with the matter. As hon. members know, the markets were lost in England to a certain extent not by the action of this government but by the action of the British government itself, and by an action which Sir Stafford Cripps on many occasions said he would not take; I refer to the devaluing of the pound. That is why the market was lost. There is no question about that. Why then try to pass the buck to the government?

The hon. member for Souris, speaking in this house yesterday—and as I said, I have every respect for the hon. member for Souris—mentioned a \$2 billion loss. He has jumped four times over the amount of the Winnipeg grain exchange and the pamphlet that he read from. We did not lose \$2 billion as against the United States farmer; and as a matter of fact, the comparison is odious in any event because, after all, the people of the United States consume the greater portion of their wheat production. In addition, they have subsidized and carried a load of farm products to the extent of over \$3,500 million;

[Mr. Stewart (Yorkton).]

and I do not think anybody in this house would advocate our present government doing that.

Mr. Ross (Souris): Mr. Speaker, I know the hon. member wants to be fair when he says I jumped the price. The \$2 billion has to do with all agricultural production. I separated it from the wheat. I know he wants to be fair.

Mr. Stewart (Yorkton): The hon. member did not separate it in his speech. I checked his speech.

Mr. Ross (Souris): Agricultural production.

Mr. Stewart (Yorkton): It is the speech that I am referring to. If the hon. member will check it he will find that I am being fair, and that he did not divide it.

In addition I want to say this. In connection with these wheat agreements, in connection not only with the international wheat agreement, but with the other wheat agreements that were made, they were entered into with the absolute endorsement of the wheat pools and of the organized farmers throughout this country. They were endorsed completely by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, which speaks for a million and a half organized farmers, and outside the Winnipeg grain exchange and a few of its subsidiaries nobody in this country was complaining about the government entering into these contracts. I venture this assertion, that these contracts did help Britain at a time when she needed help; and if they had not been entered into, and if we had put upon the British people the full load and the full price for these products we might have had a slump in our markets more than two years ago, and we would not have got the benefit that we are getting today from a fairly steady market.

Mr. Harris (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend is very generous. I apologize for interrupting one of the newer members, but I want to ask a question. The question I have in my mind is this. If, as he says, the hon. member for Souris (Mr. Ross) is out in his figures, perhaps it would help him to some conclusion—

Mr. Stewart (Yorkton): You ask the question.

Mr. Harris (Danforth):—if he adds all the other industries in Canada apart from the growing of wheat to the general equation. Prices were pegged in Canada, Mr. Speaker, but they were not pegged in the United States.

Some hon. Members: Question.