

Mr. MANION: And the farmers of Quebec, although I did not mention them because I do not believe there is so much wheat grown in Quebec. I mentioned the Ontario farmers because they do grow a fair amount of wheat, but this should apply to all wheat farmers. They should all get a fair deal at the present time. Some weeks ago I pointed out to the Minister of Trade and Commerce that United States wheat was being imported by Ontario millers in competition with Ontario wheat, and that this could be done because United States wheat was subsidized by the government of that country.

Mr. EULER: I do not like to interrupt my hon. friend, but I think I stated at that time or a few days later that the Canadian millers concerned had agreed not to import any more United States wheat beyond what they actually had on order.

Mr. MANION: I was going to give my hon. friend credit for that, but I should like to draw to his attention an item that appeared a few days ago in the *Toronto Globe and Mail*. I do not know whether he saw it.

Mr. EULER: I know of it.

Mr. MANION: I should like to read it, because it illustrates the difficulty. I believe at the time the minister dealt with the matter he straightened it out temporarily, but apparently the situation needs to be straightened out again. I should like to read the item, which is dated April 27, only about ten days ago, from Buffalo:

Grain milling interests of Buffalo are bewildered to-day by the economic implications of the exportation of 100,000 bushels of subsidized wheat to Canada for milling purposes.

A shipload of the grain, loaded at a Buffalo elevator, will head for Port Colbourne, Ontario, as soon as ice conditions permit. There the grain will be milled by the Maple Leaf Milling Company for export.

Controlled by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation the shipment involved subsidized grain.

This is an item from Buffalo, remember.

The federal government is absorbing the difference between the selling price and the prevailing United States price. In this instance, it is reported, the Canadian miller has acquired the grain for 45 cents a bushel, whereas the market price on equivalent grain in Buffalo is 80 cents a bushel.

That is the item.

Mr. EULER: May I say a word? I saw the item, too. My hon. friend will remember that I said in the house that the millers of Ontario, and among them the Maple Leaf company, had been importing this subsidized cheap United States wheat in order that they

might compete in the export market. I also said that they agreed that they would not import any more than what they had already contracted to take over. Immediately I saw the item I communicated with the Maple Leaf Milling Company and was told that what they were bringing in then—and they will have to bring in a little more—was part of the amount for which they had already contracted, but that they were not bringing in any more in addition to that.

Mr. MANION: I hope that is right.

Mr. EULER: My information was received from that company.

Mr. MANION: That is why I am trying to draw attention to the matter. Does not the minister think that something could be done about those imports? Mr. D. Campbell MacLachlan is mentioned in the article.

Mr. EULER: He was the gentleman with whom I communicated after I saw the article.

Mr. MANION: Then he should give the press the same information he gave the minister. Here it is:

D. Campbell MacLachlan of the Maple Leaf Milling Company said last night the company's export in flour was an inconsiderable item of its business and that without this cheap United States source of supply, the company would not be in a position to compete with other countries.

"If we did not take advantage of this low price per bushel, we would not be able to hold this export market," said Mr. MacLachlan. "We could not buy Canadian wheat for the export trade. The purchase of 100,000 bushels of United States wheat is not a large transaction when it is considered we mill 1,000,000 bushels a month."

I rather wonder he did not point out to the minister what is in this article. I do point out however, that for the good of the wheat growers in eastern Canada, particularly in Ontario and Quebec, the minister should take other measures. After all, companies can be reached and influenced by governments without resort to legislation on the part of the government. This company has a good many dealings with the government—at least it had when I was Minister of Railways and Canals. Remember, I am not saying anything against the company, because I realize it is a good company. But in this instance they were taking unfair advantage of the wheat grower, by importing subsidized wheat from the United States. That should be stopped. The Ontario wheat grower should be given a fair deal, and I would urge upon the minister that he insist that this company, and any other which may be implicated in the matter, give that fair deal. After all, this is the government's responsibility. The