

for such a move to be made by the Opposition. And as I see it, the Government is carrying out quite a few of the promises made during the election, and they are all good vote-catching promises that are being carried out.

I would like to remind the Leader of the Government that while I have been in Parliament, since 1930, the Liberal Government has done wonderful things for the three Prairie provinces, but those accomplishments did not always produce votes for the Government. Time and time again in the House of Commons I listened to discussions on wheat, and always was surprised at the splendid things the Liberal Government did for the Prairie farmers, but when it came to the voting somehow or other these things did not count. Oh, this would count now if you went to the country, because this is a very urgent matter indeed.

But, as I said, I am rising as a purchaser of wheat to plead again that the Government do something regarding the regulations of the Wheat Board. We have in Canada the greatest socialistic piece of legislation that ever this country has known, and the most tightly closed corporation.

We in British Columbia, and not only we, are prevented from buying wheat from farmers in another province, and are not even allowed to import any from the United States, although I could get wheat cheaper from across the line than from Calgary or Edmonton. So honourable senators can readily understand that the feelings of the people are very strong on this matter.

We say that if you are out to sell the wheat, for goodness' sake change some of the Wheat Board's socialistic regulations and let us buy our wheat freely from the farmers on the prairie. Honourable senators, I am going to rise on every possible occasion until we purchasers of wheat in British Columbia get some redress on this.

Hon. R. B. Horner: Honourable senators, I will take only a few minutes. Always when the discussions turns to wheat I feel it necessary to make a few remarks, and having been a practical farmer in Saskatchewan for almost 50 years, and having some knowledge of farming in Quebec as well, I take no back seat to anyone. I deplore this wide publicity we are giving to the world about the immense carryover of wheat. I always took that stand when I sat on the other side of the house and a similar discussion was taking place. What manufacturers or producers of other goods give out detailed information as to their inventories? We do not find that information noised about, but great publicity is given as to the number of head of cattle, for example,

that the farmers have: they are all counted and we are told beef should be cheaper because there are so many cattle, and so on. Honourable senators, a similar policy is not followed by producers of any goods which the farmer has to purchase. Details of their business are a close secret.

I think I can make some useful remarks. A large amount of wheat on the prairies is being fed at present to cattle, and I want to say that that method of disposal is a good one. We have found out that wheat can be fed pure to steers, just as corn is fed pure to steers in Iowa. The Intercontinental Packers in Saskatoon are buying wheat there now, and they can get all they want at 60 cents a bushel. The cattle fed on wheat are excellent. The farmers also are feeding wheat, and I think I am safe in saying that 100 million bushels of the estimated sales of 300 million bushels are being fed to cattle in the west. There is not a creature on the farm—whether chickens, pigs, ducks, geese or all down the line—for which wheat is not an almost perfect food. Nowadays an immense amount of grain is fed to cattle. In the first week they get a certain amount of oats and wheat. Then they are fed either crushed or rolled wheat by means of these huge self-feeders, which may hold a thousand bushels or more, and are equipped with blower and elevator: wheat mixed with other grain and straw is fed automatically. Very little roughage is required, and a great quantity of wheat can be absorbed in that way.

I do not wish to enter into an argument, but for the benefit of the honourable senator from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Reid), and to remind him of what his Government did, I would recall what happened in 1937, just twenty years ago. At that time the marketing board was busy selling wheat at 70 cents a bushel. I mention this because some people seem to believe that our wheat is too highly priced, and that if it were offered more cheaply much more would be sold. But 50 cents per bushel makes a difference of only one cent on the price of a loaf of bread. I am rather inclined to agree with the idea of the honourable senator from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Lambert), that there should be a North American pool. At the present time the United States farmer is getting, for wheat consumed within his own country, over \$2 per bushel. Our price for No. 1 Hard is down to \$1.60.

As regards Canadian wheat generally, a few of our crops have suffered from rust or frost, but also we grow wheat of very high protein content, perhaps the best in the world for mixing purposes.

So, looking at the situation over the years, I am sure another season like 1937 would