

delivered to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and drew certain inferences therefrom. I think it is fair to Dr. Magill, to the House and to the Government that I should make a short statement in reference to it. At page 4236 of Hansard the hon. member for Chateauguay-Huntingdon is reported as follows:

I have in my hand a copy of a speech delivered by Dr. Magill explaining to the members of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange the results of his mission to London, England, from which I quote:

"I took the opportunity of calling at Mr. Harris' office.

He told me that he had been at the conference in Ottawa, that he knew all that had gone on, and had talked with grain men, and that he came back to London believing that it was his duty to sell Canadian wheat to England and to neutral countries. Mark you, after the market had been opened, Mr. Harris, chairman of the War Trade Mission, believed it was his duty to sell Canadian wheat to England and to neutral countries. He also told me that a cablegram had been sent by Sir Robert Borden to Mr. Arthur Sifton, telling him among other things to sell fifty to seventy-five million bushels of our wheat."

The hon. member for Chateauguay-Huntingdon proceeds:

Now, did Mr. Arthur Sifton, acting on the instructions of the Prime Minister, sell 50,000,000 or 75,000,000 bushels of the Canadian crop before it was ripe or before it was ready to go on the market? That is the statement that was made publicly to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and it has not been denied.

I want to call the attention of the hon. member for Chateauguay-Huntingdon and the House as well to the fact that whereas the text of that quotation and its assertion is that Mr. Harris, in the first place, believed he came back to England with authority to sell, and in the second place that a cable had been sent to Mr. Arthur Sifton telling him amongst other things to sell 50,000,000 or 75,000,000 bushels, the statement made by the hon. member for Chateauguay-Huntingdon goes further than that. After asking the question "now did Mr. Arthur Sifton acting on the instructions of the Prime Minister" (and so on to the world market quoting the words).

He says:

That is the statement that was made publicly to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and it has not been denied.

That is that Mr. Arthur Sifton, acting on the instructions of the Prime Minister to sell, did sell 50,000,000 or 75,000,000 bushels of the Canadian crop before it was ripe or before it was ready to go on the market. I think there is the distinction between what was actually said in Eng-

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land and the statement in the last paragraph. There the definite statement was made that that grain was actually sold.

Mr. ROSS: Will my hon. friend allow me?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Yes.

Mr. ROBB: With all due respect to my right hon. friend I did not make that statement, and if he will read Hansard again he will notice what I said. "Now, did Mr. Arthur Sifton sell? It was an inquiry I made of the Government.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Very well, I will go over my hon. friend's remarks again if he will be good enough to pay attention. The words of my hon. friend were these:

Now, did Mr. Arthur Sifton, acting on the instructions of the Prime Minister sell 50,000,000 or 75,000,000 bushels of the Canadian crop before it was ripe or before it was ready to go on the market?

Mr. ROBB: That is it, an inquiry.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: (reading):

That is the statement that was made publicly to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and it has not been denied.

The statement that was made by Dr. Magill to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange was that Mr. Harris had told him he came back to England believing he was authorized to sell and that a cablegram had been sent to Mr. Sifton asking him to sell; but not a word to carry out the assertion of my hon. friend that these bushels of wheat had been actually sold although that was my hon. friend's statement.

Mr. ROBB: Well, I never said they were sold. I inquired "Did Mr. Sifton sell them?"

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: But my hon. friend besides an inquiry made a positive statement. I grant him this inquiry, but I read to him again his positive statement:

That is the statement that was made publicly to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and it has not been denied.

Now there was no statement made to the Winnipeg Grain Exchange that the wheat had been sold. There is where my hon. friend and I differ as to our views on the matter. However I am quite willing to leave it to the judgment of the House. Later on the hon. member for Chateauguay (Mr. Robb) made another statement. After having made the statement that I have read, from which the House inferred that this grain had been sold, a question was asked