

the absence of a posted price. The ordinary producer would have no way of finding out what the price should be. He would be operating from a position of weakness, with no bargaining power whatever.

This is the direction in which we are heading as a result of what the two ministers I have mentioned have done, or are failing to do. And what action does the Minister of Agriculture take? He simply tries to keep a low profile. He tries to keep out of sight while we subsidize to the extent of \$1 a bushel every bushel of barley that goes into the market east of the Ottawa River. At the same time, those who represent the Quebec farmers claim they are being overcharged for feed grain.

● (2020)

Somebody is ripping off the farmers of western Canada and the feeders of eastern Canada at one and the same time. We deserve better than this from the marketing mechanism. We did have a good marketing mechanism but it is being destroyed piece by piece by those who should be responsible for it.

I am not going to vote for the motion that has been put before this House because I have no confidence in the people who sit to my right. The hon. member for Battleford-Kindersley (Mr. Horner) said when the feed grain policy was announced that he agreed with it. He is on record in the *Star-Phoenix* as agreeing with the government's policy, which will cost the western farmer \$1 for every bushel of barley he sells. The minister of agriculture of Alberta said he had some reservations about it, and I know what his reservations are. His only reservations are that the guys in Quebec are going to get the same deal that he gets, and he wants the guys in Quebec to be shafted.

Why should I support people who refuse to agree to orderly marketing for rapeseed or flaxseed? Why should I support people who are not in favour of orderly marketing for western grains and whose policy is as ambivalent as that of the minister in charge of the Wheat Board?

**Mr. Horner (Crowfoot):** It is not as clear as yours.

**Mr. Gleave:** Mine is very clear.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I very much regret that I have to interrupt the hon. member, but his time appears to have expired.

[Translation]

**Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi):** Mr. Speaker, if a sample survey were carried out throughout Canada to discover which is the most important problem for the population in every Canadian province, I am sure that we should come to the conclusion that inflation is.

But the other problem we are faced with results from the fact that this government firmly believes inflation to be truly a gift from God. We have a government which, for many months, has been unable to come up with a policy to control prices and incomes.

A number of people have discussed all the ins and outs of these problems, but I repeat that the Canadians who are affected by this inflation resulting from the poor administration of this government are those in the low-income

### Cost of Living

bracket: senior citizens, pensioners, farmers, including those in the east.

[English]

It is very rarely, Mr. Speaker, that I put letters from my constituents on the record, but I am forced to put one on from a Mrs. Parker who lives at R. R. 4, Mansonville, Quebec. She writes:

Dear Mr. Grafftey:

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** This will be good.

**Mr. Grafftey:** The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) had better listen, because he is not informed about this:

Just a note to give you an idea how the grain feed prices stand. Oats, barley, wheat are \$6.50 per hundred pounds, corn, cracked, \$7.20, calf grow, \$7, scratch feed, hog grower, laying mash \$8. In some cases its a mark up of 100 per cent in the last six months, over-all the mark-up is about 100 per cent over the last year.

**The co-op tells me the brokers are having a heyday.** Perhaps some questions should be asked about the difference between what the western growers are getting and what the eastern co-operatives pay the brokers. It may be a shocker—

Dora S. Parker

If hon. members opposite would pay attention, I should like to inform them that the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) has time and time again proposed, among other things, a reserve feed bank for the eastern feed grain farmers.

**An hon. Member:** We have not heard about that.

**Mr. Grafftey:** Hon. members have not heard about it because they have not been listening. They do not choose to listen. We proposed in detail how we would come to grips with the problems of the eastern farmer and economic guarantees of the western farmer. But hon. members opposite and to my left just do not choose to listen.

[Translation]

I was interested in hearing the leader of the Social Credit Party of Canada (Mr. Caouette) this afternoon. Indeed, it is true that with the leader of my party I made a tour of the Eastern Townships and spoke with Canadians belonging to every political party: Liberals, Creditists and Progressive Conservatives.

**An hon. Member:** You spoke to our electors!

**Mr. Grafftey:** Yes, we spoke to your electors who as a result of the poor administration of this government are truly destituted. Such is the case of eastern farmers, pensioners, senior citizens, the real Creditists who would like to see the policy of our leader applied, namely price and income controls, which would be a comprehensive program and policy and I would suggest to the leader of the Creditists to take the opportunity to get acquainted with the policy of the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield).

I am sure of one thing, and that is that the Quebec Creditists do not approve of a Socialist-Liberal coalition. We do not have a minority government at the present time but a real coalition and people in Quebec as everywhere else in Canada will not approve of such a coalition for as long as Canadians remain in poverty.