

of my constituency. They have a farmers' elevator down at Sherwood, because during the last number of years millions of bushels have been drawn by wagons across the line.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Why do the Grain Growers' Grain Company not pay a fair price for the wheat?

Mr. TURRIFF: I refer my hon. friend to the Grain Growers' Grain Company.

Mr. MEIGHEN: My hon. friend is a shareholder.

Mr. TURRIFF: I might be a shareholder if I wanted to be one, but I do not happen to be a grain grower and I never was a shareholder in that company.

Mr. MEIGHEN: You repudiate their methods of buying?

Mr. TURRIFF: I do not.

Mr. PUGSLEY: The hon. member is simply stating facts.

Mr. TURRIFF: As my hon. friend knows, to the cost of his party, the grain growers have done a great work all through that country in the education of the people, and they have done it in my hon. friend's own constituency, and nobody knows that better than does my hon. friend.

Mr. MEIGHEN: They pay fair prices in my constituency and I have no criticism to make, but if they do not pay fair prices in my hon. friend's constituency, why does he not go after them?

Mr. TURRIFF: If my hon. friend thinks that the Grain Growers' Company are not doing their duty, is it the duty of the Opposition or the duty of the Government to interfere?

Mr. MEIGHEN: They are doing their duty in my county all right. If they are not doing it in yours, why do you not complain? It is a delicate point.

Mr. TURRIFF: It is not a delicate question at all. I am just showing what this Government did during this season of poor wheat in that part of the country. This does not apply all over Saskatchewan, nor in Alberta, where they had a good season, but in the southern and eastern part of Saskatchewan and in the southern part of Manitoba the crop was very poor, and if the Government had wished to help out the farmers the time to do it was last fall, before the crops were sold, and not this spring, when 79 per cent of the fall wheat of the country had gone out of the farmers' hands.

Mr. MEIGHEN: In the figures which the hon. member gave us he showed a difference across the border of 59 cents per bushel. He will admit the best the Government could have done would have been to modify the difference by ten cents, whereas the Grain Growers' Grain Company could have modified it by 49 cents. They must be robbing the farmers to the extent of 49 cents a bushel if his statement be true. How does my hon. friend explain that?

Mr. TURRIFF: My hon. friend always tries to get away from the fact that the Government is responsible. Had my hon. friend taken off that duty last fall instead of this spring buyers from the United States would have come across and bought that wheat. The fact of having to put the wheat through the customs makes it difficult for the farmers. I do not want to be understood as saying that generally speaking there is any such difference as I have stated, but there has never been a year when there would not have been more aggregate profit to the farmers of the West, and the statement that there was not a demand for the low grade wheat is not correct, because you could sell your low grade in Canada at any time. The low grade wheat is not ground by itself, nor is high grade wheat ground by itself. They are always mixed in the grinding to a greater or less extent, and this low grade wheat is being bought by the millers in order to mix it with good wheat. Therefore, the Government have taken advantage of the farmers to the extent that they have waited until the wheat was out of the farmers' hands before giving them the relief that they might have given them last fall.

The Minister of Finance took credit for the great balance of trade in our favour. According to him, if the Germans had sunk 100 more ships laden with Canadian imports, our balance of trade would have made a still better showing. That was a point hardly worthy of my hon. friend. I am glad to see the minister is getting over the great fear he had five years ago that if we allowed the Canadian farmer to sell his wheat in the United States, the British Empire would totter in ruins, and Canadians become disloyal. That was the statement made by one of the celebrated eighteen Liberals who went back on us in 1911. Sir Edmund Walker said that if the Canadian farmer was allowed to sell his produce in the United States he would become a disloyal Canadian, and it would end in the annexation of Canada to the United States.