

it both ways. These people on my left like to love the labourers and the farmers at the same time. They cannot do both. There must be a little flexibility, and that is why their job becomes tough.

• (1:00 a.m.)

An hon. Member: The minister is going to put them all in one flask.

Mr. Woolliams: I won't go into that now, but I could.

Economic hypocrisy does not work. The members from Saskatchewan who represent the farm belt know as well as I that when you increase wages and the cost of production, you increase the price of the product and in turn increase the export price. Let us get down to brass tacks. The Wheat Board is supported by the old CCF, the NDP, the Conservatives and the Liberals. Nobody in this House of Commons, including my party and the Liberals, has the nerve to criticize this bureaucracy. Four million bushels of barley could have been sold to Montana at a certain price, but because the Wheat Board said we had to keep the price at a certain level the sale was not effected.

There is more bootlegging going on now in western Canada in respect of barley, wheat and oats than there ever was in prohibition days. I could put my political reputation on the table by saying that I know many members of my party and of the Liberal party who shiver and shake when they think of attacking the Wheat Board. The Conservative Party brought in the Wheat Board on the basis that we should sell wheat on the open market. Now is the time when someone must stand up and criticize, because I have sat through this debate tonight and listened to more hypocrisy than ever before.

Many members feel they are threatened politically when they criticize the Wheat Board. They feel: Oh God, you cannot do that politically. Let me say it: we know that the Wheat Board has not performed its task and we know that the Wheat Board advises the ministers. We are in trouble in respect of the international wheat agreement. We heard today during answers to questions on Orders of the Day that everybody is breaking the international wheat agreement. That is why this is an important matter. What is the policy of the government? The government says it will inject \$100 million into the western Canadian economy. Those in eastern Canada, Ontario and Quebec, think this is a tremendous program which will provide \$100

Wheat Acreage Reduction
million through the creation of summer fallow and forage crops.

When I questioned the government today they admitted that there is no grass seed on the market because last year there was frost and one thing and another. The price is going to become so high that only the speculators will get it. What kind of program is that? When is the minister who comes from the best university in Canada, who was the dean of the law school of the University of Saskatoon, going to measure up to his responsibilities and say, "I realize the government and the Wheat Board have failed. We are not going to pay you for not growing wheat when two-thirds of the world are going to bed hungry".

The members to my left criticize the program. The leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Douglas) called it an insane policy, but he offered no alternative. When is the minister going to come up with an idea to sell our wheat to the world and feed the starving and the hungry? What is going to happen next year following the summer fallow, if the land is not blown away, when the farmers start to plant something? My suggestion to the minister is to use the \$100 million—call it a subsidy or whatever you want—to sell the wheat to the world, which is ready to buy it. We do not compete. I give the leader of the NPD credit for saying that we were the first wheat exporting country in the world two years ago but today we are the fourth or the fifth. In what place will we be after this program?

Would it not be better to sell the wheat or to give a subsidy to the Prairie farmers? It seems to me that this is the worst type of program: first, because there is no grass seed to plant it is all in the speculators' market; second, if you summer fallow as the minister suggests and he is a Saskatchewan-born man, the Prairies will be turned into a dust bowl; third, this is an inflationary program; and fourth, it would be better to put in the \$100 million and get rid of the wheat. As the president of the Bank of Montreal said, for every \$1 we get out of wheat or any other product in Canada, \$3.50 is returned in gross national product.

Let us get back to my friends on my left who, as the minister knows, have a good representation from western Canada. I am referring to the New Democratic Party. I call them economic hypocrites. These people basically support the Wheat Board. They do not want anything changed in it. At the same time, they criticize the government.