

Supply—Trade and Commerce

average. If you put that in terms of dollar purchasing power of 20 years ago, that is less than 65 cents a bushel. No amount of bickering back and forth politically is going to do anything about this problem. It is a matter that the government of Canada, with the support of Canadians, must do something about.

An hon. Member: What do you suggest?

Mr. Tucker: What I am going to suggest is this. I suggest going back to the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. As Mr. Spry says, it is something that must be dealt with by government. There is no use in sending delegations to Washington to talk to officials there and persuade them that we are being mistreated, that the wrong steps are being taken when Congress will immediately turn around and say, "We are responsible only to our constituents. If it is a good thing for us to subsidize them to the extent of seventy cents or eighty cents a bushel and to dump our wheat on the markets of the world, we will do it. After all, let the Canadian government look after its people."

This is the sort of thing that goes contrary to the agreement laid down by NATO. What I am suggesting to the government of the day is that the time has come when the western world must realize that it must stick together economically as well as in a military sense. They cannot begin to say to Canada, "We expect you to support us 100 per cent if it is a matter of fighting but not in anything else; if we take steps whereby your whole economy is disrupted, that is not of interest to us". I suggest that the time has come when the members of the Atlantic community must realize that they must work together economically as well as militarily. I suggest that the time has come when our Canadian government must say to the United States government particularly, "Here is the treaty which you signed, we want you to pay more than lip service to this treaty; we want you to live up to it; we want you to take the necessary steps to see to it that, in the words of this treaty, you are doing what you can to eliminate conflict in international economic policies and to encourage economic collaboration between any or all of them."

If we have not the economic strength to keep our producers from being driven to a position where they cannot get along at all and the United States, because of their great economic strength, are doing that, it seems to me it is time that the government says to the United States government: we have taken the attitude up to now that we

[Mr. Tucker.]

cannot engage in any price war with you. We, in effect are maintaining the world price for wheat under which, by your policies, you are managing to sell a good deal more wheat than you had in previous years. But this cannot go on indefinitely. If you are not prepared to come to some agreement whereby this matter is dealt with in a fair way between nations we shall be forced, economically and financially weak comparatively as we are, to embark on some similar policy. They know that if ever Canada takes that attitude it will bring about complete and utter chaos in the marketing of wheat in the world. Then perhaps the United States government, realizing that we mean business, will act accordingly.

The situation is the same as that with regard to the St. Lawrence seaway where we took the attitude, "We want you to come in with us". But nothing happened until we said to the United States government, "Whether you come in with us or not, we are going to build it". Then they came in with us.

I think the time has come, Mr. Chairman, when we have got to tell the United States government that we must protect our own consumers; that, if necessary we are going to do something about it. They will know that if we did as they are doing this would introduce chaos into world wheat markets as far as the allies of the United States are concerned, and if this happens with regard to wheat, what will happen with regard to meat products and all the rest of it? If the United States cares anything about the economy and the well-being of the western world they will listen to suggestions that we are bound to take action if they do not agree to a fair policy toward us.

Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert): You should have said that before June 10. It is too late now.

Mr. Tucker: I hope it is not too late. It is a serious indictment of your own government that you do not think you can do anything about it.

Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert): You should have made that speech a year ago.

Mr. Tucker: I was asked by a member on the other side what I suggest we should do. I see, by now, that you are not doing anything to solve the terrible situation affecting the purchasing power of our western Canadian farmers. As far as I can see, absolutely nothing has been done. All you have done is make big promises, but I do not see anything on the order paper which means anything but window dressing, and it