quite obvious that many of these measures are not acceptable to the majority of producers. It is fair to say that the minister is not communicating very well with the vast majority of producers out west, because the programs instituted under his jurisdiction simply do not provide solutions and to a very large degree these programs conflict with the aims, aspirations and wishes of the majority. I believe this bill fits that category. It merely sets out to stabilize incomes rather than improve them.

An hon. Member: Stabilized poverty.

Mr. Mazankowski: All it does is perpetrate a program of stabilized poverty. The vast majority of Canadians know it is of no use to talk to the minister responsible for agricultural policy or the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. They know they will not listen. Their promises are empty and meaningless.

The minister also talked about making political hay. Who was trying to make political hay when this program was first announced? The headlines across the country suggested the western farmers would receive a gift from the government. They were going to get a bonus in the form of a huge cash injection. The newspaper articles were misleading. They were distorted; they did not tell the people all the facts. There was no headline to the effect that the government intended to withdraw the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act and coverage of the pool accounts.

This bill sets out to reappropriate the expenditures and funds which have normally been supplied under the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act and losses on pool accounts which amounted to $131 million in the last crop year. We must remember the withdrawal of PFAA payments which have amounted to an average of $6 million a year paid by the federal government since the program was incorporated. Who was making political hay when the Lift program was announced? When that program was introduced the suggestion was that western farmers would receive another gift of $100 million to $140 million. Again this was misleading and the facts were not completely detailed. Now that the smoke has cleared, we find something like $55 million or $60 million being paid out under this program.

I have not seen any headlines retracting the grossly misleading statements made when the program was instituted. In addition, the measure was useful to only about 50 per cent of the people engaged in the production of grain in western Canada. Certainly the measure discriminated against and penalized those who engaged in a voluntary reduction of wheat in the previous year. Many more were short-changed by the program because of the complicated, bureaucratic devices and regulations surrounding the measure, not to mention the ambiguous statements made and misinterpretations in respect of it.

This is the kind of misleading and distorted propaganda facing the agricultural industry in western Canada. This performance is being perpetrated by the minister responsible for the Wheat Board, and the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson). We know very well that the same thing happened in respect of Bill C-176, which was to be a producers' bill. We found out that it was nothing more than a bureaucrats' bill or a government bill. This bill was supposed to serve the interests of producers but it was designed merely to set up another political haven for the government, administered by government appointees. The producers caught on very quickly and wanted no part of this measure. They have rejected it completely. They know they cannot trust the Minister of Agriculture. He has broken faith with the farmers.

A great deal has been said about Bill C-176. There has been a fair amount of political in-fighting. Let me quote a short poem which I believe puts the matter in proper perspective. I do not know who is the author of the poem but it is signed by "Old Rancher". The hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek (Mr. McIntosh) suggests it was written by one of his constituents.

Mr. McIntosh: I didn't suggest; I told you.

Mr. Mazankowski: It goes like this:

Big Jack Horner got Bud in a corner,
Said your promises sound rather strange,
At this stage in the battle you've included cattle,
And sold out your home on the range.
You saw easy pickin's for backing French chickens,
May the goose pimples rise on your neck,
When you see the visions of voters' decisions,
And a chicken farm down in Quebec.

The Minister of Agriculture was crying in the same manner as the minister in charge of the Wheat Board when the House was considering Bill C-175, the new Canada Grain Act. In the June 30 issue of the *Globe and Mail* we find the following passage:

Opposition MPs "performed a real disservice" for western grain growers by holding up passage of a new grain act, agriculture minister H. A. Olson said yesterday.

• (8:50 p.m.)

Refusal to let the act through before the Commons summer adjournment, started last Friday, may seriously impede Canada's ability to market wheat with a guaranteed protein content, the minister said in an interview.

Many wheat importers seek a protein content guarantee before they will make a purchase.

Mr. Speaker, this is a distortion of the facts. I had the opportunity to attend a meeting in Lloydminster, Alberta, where the now chief commissioner, Mr. Vogel, was in attendance. I asked him whether Canada was losing any significant grain sales because of our inability to guarantee protein grading. He said that losses because of our inability to guarantee protein grading were negligible. When I asked how many countries had requested guaranteed protein content, he said one or two. So we see this is nothing but sheer nonsense.

The bill did not become law until April 1. We heard the minister say over and over again that we were making record grain sales. We were told we have made sales of 256 million bushels this year, compared with 181 million bushels last year without protein grading. These are the kinds of distortions and misrepresentations that are being made across the country. The minister speaks