

this institution called a combine with the railway commission. I would refer the right hon. gentleman to his recalcitrant follower to see if he cannot fix him up, and I wish him more success than he had with the Minister of Agriculture. Mark you, that was no slip of the tongue by the hon. member for Centre Toronto. He said the same thing more than once. It just showed the natural bent of the Tory mind. He said:

First of all, I do not believe there is a combine in the sense that it is a combine to restrain trade.

He also thinks it is a docile institution with no teeth, and that if it had teeth, it would not bite anyhow. He goes on:

I have too high an opinion of the Canadian Pacific and of these other lines to believe they are doing anything more than trying to get a fair rate which would keep them going. There may be mistakes made, just as there have been in the fixing of rates on our transportation lines in this country: there is a little one, for instance, on the Crownsnest pass.

Who made that mistake, if it was a mistake? The Parliament of Canada. And this rate fixing institution, known as the combine, has the same right to make mistakes that we have. What do you know about that? Well, words fail me, Mr. Speaker, to do justice to such a statement as that. I will not read any further. My hon. friends opposite are looking nearly as serious as when these files of earlier correspondence were tabled; they are looking as though their last hour had come. "Cheer up, the worst is yet to come." I think I have got through with the hon. member for Centre Toronto (Mr. Bristol).

I come now to the first gentleman who spoke to-day, the hon. member for Burrard (Mr. Clark). His first complaint was a very terrible one. "Why, these boats may be built in Germany." I suppose he thought that would arouse everybody's anger. He must have thought that we were in the middle of the war again. Let me tell the hon. gentleman the war has been over for some time. However, he made the statement twice, and I suppose he will go on repeating it all over Canada trying to make capital because these vessels might be built in Germany. As it happens they will not be built in Germany. My information is that all these contracts have been already let to British shipyards. That should satisfy my hon. friend; I hope he will sleep tonight when he knows that.

Mr. BOYS: Have the contracts been signed?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: That is for Sir William Petersen to say; we are not building them.

Mr. MEIGHEN: You said they were a moment ago.

[Mr. Motherwell.]

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Another fallacious notion my hon. friend is getting into his head is that we are going in for building ships. We have got about enough ships now of the kind that were built by my hon. friends opposite.

Mr. CHAPLIN: You are only subsidizing them?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: We are paying for the right to control the transportation rates, and we are going to control them.

Then my hon. friend (Mr. Clark) goes further with regard to wheat shipped to Montreal. He stated that these ships are actually going to haul American wheat in competition with ours, and notwithstanding that fact they are going to be subsidized out of the treasury of Canada, and then he asked the question "Is this wheat of ours going in there with the American wheat? That in order to draw our wheat they must draw American wheat and it will be mixed together in the same bin." My hon. friend is a legal gentleman, I understand that is his profession, and he must know that every article that enters Canada that is dutiable must either pay duty or go into a bonded warehouse of some kind. If he does not know that he is not very well posted on wheat; he may be a good lawyer in other respects. But any dutiable article that comes into Canada, which is just moving through Canada, enters at one point and goes out at another.

Mr. CLARK: Will that wheat definitely go into elevators at Montreal?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Just a little louder if you please.

Mr. CLARK: Will the wheat that comes through from the United States in bond definitely get into the elevators at Montreal?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Surely but it will be kept separate in special bins. Surely my hon. friend has heard of that before?

Mr. CLARK: It will be separated from the Canadian wheat?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Surely.

Mr. CLARK: And never mixed at any time?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Surely not. No wonder we need to send this contract to a committee; I see there is a lot of information required round here. American wheat! Why, you would have every farmer in this House on his hind legs almost if we mixed that Kansas wheat in Montreal with our wheat? It is practically all Kansas wheat that goes