

I think that that kind of information is useful to have, but I can tell you that the people doing the study are very careful, and are using what they believe is the most sophisticated model that can be obtained for the purposes of that study. When the study comes forward I would hope that it will gather the support necessary to see it through, and that then the compensation will be paid along the lines of the recommendation.

#### CROWSNEST RATES—SUBSIDIZATION

**Hon. Duff Roblin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, may I ask my honourable friend, the Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board, a question with respect to the Crow rate, which he knows I am rather interested in?

I would like to ask him what proportion of the Western Development Fund will be used to subsidize the Crow rates.

**Hon. Hazen Argue (Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board):** I have no idea. I am not able to answer that question.

**Senator Roblin:** Would my honourable friend be so kind as to inquire of his colleague the Minister of Transport, because he is the one to whom credit is given for having made that statement. Perhaps his colleague, the Minister of State for Economic Development, could answer. I am interested in knowing what proportion of the Western Development Fund will be used to support freight rates, either the catch-up on the \$180 million or whatever it is that the railways are thought to be losing now, or whether it is intended only for increases in freight costs from here on in.

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of State for Economic Development):** Well, honourable senators, it is very difficult to give an answer as to how much, especially when the amount has not yet been determined.

● (1450)

**Senator Roblin:** I thank my honourable friend for his inadequate answer, but I would ask him again if he would consult his colleague, the Minister of Transport, because he is, apparently, the one who is making statements on the topic.

**Senator Olson:** I will give an undertaking to do that but I—and I do not like to use the word “suspect”—I do think at this time that there has been a bit of speculation added to what the Minister of Transport might or might not have said.

**Senator Roblin:** My honourable friend can no doubt clarify that matter for us, because we are anxious to get rid of the speculation and obtain the facts. My honourable friend is not famous in this chamber for producing facts, so I encourage him to do so on this occasion.

**Senator Olson:** Honourable senators, I am sorry my honourable friend missed that. I said the fact is that the amount has not yet been determined. That is a fact. It is fair game to speculate on what that amount may be when it is determined, I suppose, but the fact is that it has not been determined.

[Senator Argue.]

**Senator Roblin:** I accept that statement, but I encourage my friend to give us the information when he receives it. I think it would be a lot better for all of us if we stuck closer to the facts and refrained from stimulating speculation in the manner adopted by the minister.

**Senator Argue:** I am going to volunteer another answer. I have just read the statement made today in Regina by the Minister of Transport to the annual meeting of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. We would both be very happy to convey the suggestion of my honourable friend to the Minister of Transport, but I think our earlier answers will show that the process is still going on, and no firm conclusions have yet been arrived at.

#### CROWSNEST RATES—INVESTIGATION OF C.P. RAIL

**Hon. Duff Roblin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Perhaps I could ask my honourable friend, the Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board, a question which, I hope, will be the final one for today as far as I am concerned. Would he tell us whether or not, in the discussions that are taking place with respect to the Crow, any decision has been made about an investigation of CP Rail in connection with that matter?

**Hon. Hazen Argue (Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board):** I suppose it is in the same category as the answer to the other question. No specific policy or details have been arrived at—unless I have missed a meeting—as to a future inquiry. I read in the paper that Senator Olson and I are very strongly in favour of the CP inquiry and that is true. It has almost unanimous support in western Canada, and I believe it would be a very useful thing to do, but I do not have detailed information on how it should be done.

**Senator Roblin:** My honourable friend is encouraging speculation again. I wish he would get down to the facts.

#### ORDERLY MARKETING—FARM-STORED GRAIN

**Hon. Sidney L. Buckwold:** Honourable senators, I have a question for the Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board.

This is your day, Senator Argue. I understand you are going to make a significant speech later in the day on energy, so perhaps you had better conserve some.

I should like to make one or two comments, with the indulgence of Her Honour the Speaker, and then ask a question. My first observation is that I hope that the \$400 million development fund, which was promised in the budget to help western Canada, is not dissipated by subsidizing railroads in respect of the Crowsnest rate. That would be a real disappointment to many of us in western Canada because we think that that fund should be used to develop the industrial capacity and fill other needs of the west.

Another observation I want to make is in response to the minister's reply to Senator Roblin's question regarding the CPR. The minister indicated that this is the unanimous wish of western Canada where you have one man—