

ferred to, it would not take him long to scratch his pen through the cheque for \$15,000 and send it back to the people from whence it came. Talk about mercenaries; talk about lawyers being the hired agents of any special class. I want to ask you, honourable gentlemen, if there is a man in either House whom we can for one moment compare with a specially-hired agent like Mr. Crerar, who represents this organization. If this Government does its duty, and if the three Ministers in this House see that they do their duty, they will appoint a commission to inquire into this organization, and if that commission does not find that it has swindled the western people, I am prepared to leave this House and never to enter it again. Take the million in grain that they have never paid for at the terminal elevator which they charged up to the farmers; they have taken millions and divided it up amongst themselves. Why have we not a sample market to-day? Why would honourable gentlemen, if they were living there and were farmers, not be paid for the flour that is in their wheat? The Bill was passed by Parliament after the outbreak of the war, and everybody supposed it would come into force. There had been a demand for it, and I believe it was an honest demand. After the Bill became law, those people asked that its enforcement be postponed. Why that postponement? Honourable gentlemen, I am told that the Grain Growers' Guide was at that time in very low water, that it needed financial assistance, and that certain representatives of transportation in this country went to the organization and said: "We are perfectly willing that you should have free wheat; go on with your agitation for free wheat, but stop this agitation for a sample market, because we would have to stop our cars here—it would cause delay. If you will do that, we will see that your Grain Growers' Guide is financed." Whether that is true or not, it is a fact that from that day to this the Grain Growers' Guide has not been in want of money. I saw two loads of wheat shipped to Fort William and two loads shipped across the line to Minneapolis. It was wheat of low grade, 3 or 4 points grade. One lot was graded and bought by grade, as Canada buys and sells. The other was bought by sample market, and payment was made for the flour that was in the wheat. It was not that the American market was better; it was because the sample market meant honest treatment. What was the result?

After paying the duty we received over 23 cents a bushel more for the wheat that went to Minneapolis than for the wheat that went to Fort William and was sold under grade. Who stepped in and prevented us from getting the difference? The Grain Growers' corporation asked that the enforcement of that law be suspended, and to this day they have not asked that it be restored.

It surprises me to find that the honourable member who sat behind me (Hon. Mr. Turriff) has disappeared—has gone to the other side. I am sorry he has gone, and I am glad he is away, because he used to groan here every time there was anything presented in the way of strong protective legislation.

Nobody speaks of the farmers as a menace. I do not think that Canada in its weakest moments ever produced a fool who would speak like that. No, and it is not creditable to the leader of the Progressive party even to suggest such a thing. We may have been foolish, as others have been, but we are not a menace, provided we remain in full sympathy with a complete nationhood and that we spread out our beneficent wings over all the classes and all the people of Canada, without selfishness. If we do that, the farmer will stand where he ought to stand, first among the citizenship of this country. But he must not be agitated by the people who want to use him.

The honourable gentleman says that if we had the American market the great West would flourish. I suppose he thinks that if we had free trade it would flourish even more. If beef and mutton could be brought free from Australia and New Zealand, countries that have summer when we have winter, and winter when we have summer, so that when the honourable gentleman wanted to sell his corn-fed beef or pork it would come into competition with the meat of animals fed only from the soil, I suppose that would make the cattle industry of the great West flourish. Honourable gentlemen, when you think of these things, and of many more, with which I shall not take up your time, you cannot help realizing how unfortunate it is that a man of his great ability—for he must have that, because otherwise he would not occupy the position to which he has appointed himself—should not have been given understanding.

I find that I have still a few moments before we have any right to feel hungry, and I wish to devote that time to the other