

*Grain Sales to China*

because of this new sale. About half of the grain involved is expected to be shipped to China in the calendar year 1972, for which a contract was announced previously. With this sale, the total amount of wheat going to China in 1972 will reach about 145 million bushels which, of course, will be an all-time high.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Lang:** The sale is in the usual terms in cases of sales to China, with 25 per cent cash at the time of loading and the balance on credit in 18 months. As the Wheat Board release indicates, the credit terms are made possible under a guarantee to the Canadian Wheat Board by the federal government.

At this time I should like to take the opportunity of paying tribute to the Wheat Board commissioners, particularly the ones who negotiated this contract but to all of them as well, and a tribute to their staff who do a tremendous amount of work both in the selling of grain and assuring it moves to market on time, as well as assuring that so far as possible there is equity of opportunity for delivery among farmers in the region. We sometimes neglect to pay attention to the hard work done by people within a board like this, the commissioners and their staffs, and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate them.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I will be very conscious about your admonition about being brief, although a lot of platitudinous pap comes from the other side. I will simply say we are very glad to note this sale and to see that the government, prodded and pushed by the opposition over the past two or three years, has finally come to realize what can be done and should have been done. If the government will listen to us more often it will be a better government.

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, one thing the minister will not lack is advice. We are pleased that sales are being made. This announcement indicates that the policy of formally recognizing China has been well worth while. This party was in the forefront in suggesting we ought to take a realistic attitude toward that country.

I am happy to hear the minister say he is confident our transportation facilities will be able to deliver the product. As to the hopper cars mentioned by the minister, I understand from his own statement that they are still at the order stage. As someone has said, the youngster is so far only a gleam in the eye.

• (1130)

The minister has said that the Wheat Board has finally proven to him and to his party that it is an efficient sales organization. He will have an opportunity when a bill comes before the House in a few days to include under the operations of the Wheat Board the other grains that western farmers are marketing. I say to the minister—and I think he must recognize it—that sales of the grains the Wheat Board has not marketed have not been as good. So I urge the minister to give the farmers a break by taking

[Mr. Lang.]

advantage of the opportunity to bring other grains within the ambit of the board.

[Translation]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and myself are also pleased to hear the minister say that a new wheat sale contract has been passed between China and Canada. This sale will certainly help the wheat producers of western Canada.

The minister announced that this sale of 1.5 million tons of wheat has been negotiated according to the following terms: 25 per cent cash and the balance to be paid in 18 months, the credit being guaranteed by the federal government to the Wheat Board. I would have liked to hear the minister say, for example, at which interest rate the sale has been made and with what money the Republic of China will pay the 25 per cent cash.

Mr. Speaker, the minister told us that the federal government will guarantee this loan or this credit to the Canadian Wheat Board. This is another occasion where Canadians provide nearly everything, but there is a lack of information. Canadians are deeply interested in the interest rate and in the amount which will be paid cash, and I feel that China will certainly not pay us with Canadian money because she has none. Will she pay us with American money? We do not know.

At all events, there was a wheat sale. The farmers of western Canada want to sell their wheat and we must sell it, but on terms that it will not be a burden for the Canadian people who, I think, bear enough at present in all fields of economic activity.

\* \* \*

[English]

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

REPORTED REFERENCE BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN TO SOME EMPLOYEES AS BEING CORRUPTIBLE SLOBS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to propose a motion in a case of urgent and pressing necessity under Standing Order 43. The *Ottawa Journal* of June 1 carries an account of a speech by the chairman of the Public Service Commission in which he is reported as describing some public servants as being "corruptible slobs". I move, seconded by the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave):

That the subject matter of the chairman's speech be referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates which yesterday had referred to it the annual report of the Public Service Commission for 1971.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. members have heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Fundy-Royal. This motion is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43 and requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.