

*Canadian Wheat Board Act*

**Mr. Benjamin:** Coming from the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek I probably wouldn't; but I would like to know which way he goes. I am sure the grain growers in Swift Current-Maple Creek would like to know. You see, it is a little easier to get away with the jazz about livestock or hogs, because there are not so many. It is a little easier to get away with that. You can gallop around on either side of the question ad nauseum, but the grain question is a little different. That will be a little tougher for these boys to handle.

If you want a Canadian Wheat Board which has some authority and some policies, then you should not handcuff it. You should allow it to do a job for the benefit of the grain producers of Canada, with the national strength of Canada behind its operation in the international market. You should not diffuse or weaken it by allowing a lot of parasites to get their hands in the till as well. If this is what you want, you will not allow a lot of people who do not do much work on grain production or selling to get a piece of the action. You will preserve this for the grain producers and for the national interest, and you will quit allowing the grain trade in its multiplicity of numbers, or the grain exchange—these parasites who never did an honest day's work in their lives and who speculate on the work and labour of other men—to become involved in this area.

I believe this is where the nuts and bolts of the operation are. I believe there is more to this bill than meets the eye. It is not as nice and mild as the minister would have us think. It is not as the official opposition would have us believe. They would have us believe the minister will bring about state control in respect of all these grains automatically. Mr. Speaker, I would bet that if this bill passes, you and I will not live long enough to see the minister put these three grains under the Canadian Wheat Board, because he does not really mean it. He does not really believe it. I question whether he really believes in a government-operated, producer-controlled, public, orderly marketing system for grains. If he did, he would not horse around with futures markets for flaxseed or rapeseed. If he really believed what he is talking about in this bill, he would not try to kid the official opposition which at least would like to be on one side. He will not let them.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the members from the two old line parties will get up and once and for all say what they stand for, instead of trying to be on both sides of this question. The New Democratic Party has favoured public marketing of grains under the Canadian Wheat Board since 1935. We have never wavered from that. I hope some of the figures the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar threw at the minister this afternoon will give him pause and cause him to think about what is happening to the rapeseed growers and how many cents a bushel they have been done out of in the past three years.

If the minister will think this over a little, perhaps he will say that the bill needs amending in order to make it a little stronger than it is. Then perhaps once and for all the grain producers of the three Prairie provinces will get what they have been begging for for years. They are by far the majority. If the minister wants to have a

[Mr. McIntosh.]

really good plebiscite he had better call one tomorrow so that those who throw their money, their interests, and their prejudices behind outfits like the private grain trade and the Winnipeg Grain Exchange will not be able to flood the weekly newspapers with misrepresenting half-truths such as we have had in the past few weeks.

I hope the minister will say that the day this bill is passed there will be a plebiscite so that the grain producers can speak without being saturated with a propaganda campaign the like of which reminds me of medicare and several other fights the people of this country have fought for years and years and then had to wait while the old line parties tried to be all things to all people.

**An hon. Member:** Old Lang!

**Mr. Benjamin:** Auld Lang parties might be a better way to say it. It is not Auld Lang Syne, although I hope to sing that song to the hon. member. Mr. Speaker, I hope hon. members in the old line parties will say whether or not they are in favour of a government-operated, producer-controlled Canadian Wheat Board with all grains under it. When they do that it will be an edification for all the people of the three Prairie provinces.

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

### PUBLIC SERVICE—CLYNE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF RIGHT TO BARGAIN COLLECTIVELY FROM CERTAIN EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 11, as recorded in *Hansard* at page 5688, and on Wednesday, May 12, as recorded at page 5735, I put questions to the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) concerning a certain recommendation in the most recent report of the Clyne committee. The recommendation in question is the one to the effect that a large number of senior public servants should be removed from the area of collective bargaining.

● (10:00 p.m.)

I asked the President of the Treasury Board to give the assurance that the government would not support this retrogressive recommendation. On both of the days to which I referred, the reply of the President of the Treasury Board was to the effect that I was asking him to prejudice the study of a committee which is considering the whole question of the Public Service Staff Relations Act.

This matter really goes back to Monday, April 26, when the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) rose in this House and tabled two or three documents, one of which attracted more interest than the others, namely, the one having to do with increasing the pay of Members of Parliament. I am afraid that because of the attention that