

a marketing board. Cargill Grain is trying to take away some of the power and authority of the Canadian Wheat Board.

In 1974 the minister in charge of the Wheat Board took the marketing of feed grains for domestic purposes out of the authority of the Canadian Wheat Board. Recently, and this made me very angry because he is a westerner, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark) suggested at a meeting in Manitoba that perhaps the Wheat Board needs some competition in the selling of grain.

I have before me a copy of an article written by a very reputable journalist, Fred Harrison, in the Regina *Leader-Post* of October 19. He quoted the Leader of the Opposition, who spoke in Manitoba. He wrote, and I quote:

The meeting was in Morden, not far from Elm Creek, site of a controversial new high-throughput grain elevator built by the Cargill Grain Co. Ltd. Many farmers in the area are sufficiently impressed by the Cargill operation that they believe competition is needed in the selling, not just the storage, of grain.

● (2012)

Murta—

That is the hon. member for Lisgar.

—was accompanying Clark on the trip.

It continued:

The *Valley Leader*, a weekly newspaper based in Carman, reported August 24 that Clark had said a Conservative government would seek "expansion of the Wheat Board's selling efforts, but permission (would be) given to private organizations to sell grain in competition with the Wheat Board".

So we have the Leader of the Opposition saying in Manitoba that if a Conservative government is elected, permission would be given private organizations to sell grain in competition with the Canadian Wheat Board. Even the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Hnatyshyn) shakes his head in disgust that the leader of his own party would suggest that the Cargill Grain Company should be allowed to sell wheat in competition with the Canadian Wheat Board.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Hnatyshyn) is rising on a point of order.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, I am normally a very quiet member and do not like interjecting with points of order, but the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville said I was shaking my head in disgust. I just want to place on record that shaking my head had nothing to do at all with his own specious argument; rather it was directed toward him.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order. I suggest to the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar that that is not a point of order but a point of dispute.

**Mr. Nystrom:** I suppose the truth hurts, Mr. Speaker. It appears that the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar does not believe the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix* or the Manitoba *Valley Leader*. Perhaps I should quote another weekly Manitoba newspaper, the *Pembina Times* which is based in Morden.

### Income Tax

According to that newspaper the Leader of the Opposition had this to say:

—Conservatives favour supplementing the selling activities of the Board by allowing Canadian grain trading companies to enter into the international market to improve our grain sales.

It is not I who says these things, Mr. Speaker; I am just reading my prairie newspapers like all good prairie members should; but when one sees the Leader of the Opposition quoted in newspapers, I tend to believe them, especially when I see two or three quotations. I know the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker) and other members do as well. However, the press did not simply interview the Leader of the Opposition but other members too. For example:

Frank Hamilton, Conservative MP for Swift Current-Maple Creek and PC wheat board critic, registered surprise over Clark's statement.

Another quotation:

Alvin Hamilton, MP for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain and a former agriculture minister, was equally surprised.

The Leader of the Opposition is a very important person. It is only fair that western farmers and the people of western Canada in general know where he stands with the Wheat Board, since the Wheat Board is so important to development of the west and to the financial integrity of the farmers. Again I see the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar nodding his head in agreement with me that it is important that people of the west know where the Leader of the Opposition stands. He does not stand behind the Wheat Board at all. I think it is very important to let the people know that.

We are discussing today a tax bill and talking about the economy. One thing which is imperative in a strong economy is a strong farm economy. To have a strong farm economy we need a strong Wheat Board and orderly marketing, which means as much support as possible for the Wheat Board. Our party clearly stands behind the Wheat Board and orderly marketing.

There are a number of other matters which one can mention in a debate of this sort, but the most important of all is that we believe the Government of Canada should have a planned economy. We want to allocate the resources which we have in a planned way for the benefit of people, not necessarily for the benefit of large corporations and profits. We must process more of our raw materials. We are importing more manufactured goods on a per capita basis than any other industrialized country, and this is one reason why we have so much unemployment in Canada today. If we started to process goods and materials, to build our own fridges, stoves, and deep freezes and so on, we would create many more jobs in Canada for our people. This is something the government could do, along with revising the tax system so there is fair taxation for everyone.

If the government does not start to take action of this sort, we will continue to have high unemployment, very high inflation, and regional inequities. But instead of going in the direction I suggest, the government talks of going in the other direction.

Today in the House a Liberal backbencher from northern Ontario pleaded with the government not to abolish the