

be sold unless that wheat was delivered by the people from whom my right hon. friend himself had made arrangements to purchase it.

Mr. BENNETT: Will the minister allow me to ask a question?

Mr. EULER: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: They needed the wheat to sell, and they sold it. They sold it at an increase of three, four and five cents a bushel during the next two weeks; yet here we have an appropriation providing for a loss of \$15,000,000 in order that Mr. Murray may get credit for a profit for the wheat board. That is all.

Mr. EULER: If wheat had happened to go down in price—

Mr. BENNETT: But it did not.

Mr. EULER: I am sure my right hon. friend does not credit even this government with sufficient omniscience to see in advance that wheat was going to increase four or five cents a bushel, because it did not.

Just in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, this is what I really rose to say, and it is with reference to the charges made my right hon. friend with regard to Mr. Murray, the present chairman of the wheat board. What the right hon. gentleman said was neither generous nor just. In the speech he delivered in this connection earlier in the session the statements he made about Mr. Murray, and he is raising the point himself—

Mr. BENNETT: And they were proved to the hilt.

Mr. EULER: The statements he made or the charges that he made, if they were charges, were not borne out by the evidence which was submitted to that committee, as my right hon. friend very well knows.

Mr. BENNETT: I say they were, and that is the difference between us.

Mr. EULER: To-day my right hon. friend makes the charge that Mr. Murray was responsible for forcing the cooperatives, from whom my right hon. friend had purchased the wheat, to hand over that wheat. I want to say to him that anything that was done with regard to the taking over of that wheat was not done on the initiation of Mr. Murray at all. He was not in Ottawa. The wheat committee of the cabinet met from day to day, and that wheat committee is entirely responsible for what took place. Mr. Murray has no blame whatsoever coming to him. In fact, if I may say so in conclusion, I think this country owes Mr. Murray a debt of gratitude for changing

[Mr. Euler.

a situation that was almost ruinous to the people of this country into one that holds at least a certain degree of hope.

Mr. BENNETT: There are two or three words I am not going to let pass unchallenged. Mr. Murray swore that, in Ottawa, he helped to prepare the statement of the grain exchange presented last year to the select committee in June and July.

Mr. EULER: What has that to do with forcing the cooperatives to hand over the wheat?

Mr. BENNETT: He swore that he helped to prepare that statement. The hon. gentleman has referred to what I said about Mr. Murray in a previous speech. I said that he was the representative of the grain exchange interests. My hon. friend objects to that, but I proved my statement from the mouth of Mr. Murray himself. Now, in his anxiety to show success and a profit, he is to get credit for the sales of wheat he bought at 84½ cents on the second of the month and sold on the ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth for as much as 90 cents a bushel. That is the story, and in some instances those were contracts in wheat. Instead of those being treated as they were realized upon, as one would expect, they were treated in the other way, with the result indicated.

Mr. EULER: My right hon. friend has absolutely no ground for stating that it was Mr. Murray who forced us to call upon the cooperatives to hand over their wheat to the government. That is the responsibility of the wheat committee of the cabinet.

Mr. BENNETT: He said under oath that he had to have the wheat.

Mr. GARDINER: Mr. Chairman, I think in fairness to the chairman of the wheat board and in reply to some of the remarks that have been made by the right hon. leader of the opposition for the purpose, I assume, of indicating to this committee and to the country in general that there is some political virus behind the activities of the government in connection with the handling of wheat, there are one or two things that ought to be said. I have in my hand the second and final report of the special committee dealing with wheat that met during the present session. I notice that the report states:

Mr. Euler, from the special committee on the marketing of wheat and other grains, presented the unanimous second and final report of the said committee—

The report continues:

Pursuant to the resolution of the House of Commons of March 18, 1936, your committee