

favour of the wheat agreement, and contradicted me in this house when I said that at the end of the four years we would get no help. Well, so far we have got no help, and today Britain has no money to buy our wheat. She can get her requirements cheaper on the world market.

**Hon. Mr. Lambert:** I do not wish to interrupt my friend unduly, or to do him any injustice, but surely he is misrepresenting my view on the wheat agreement.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** I certainly am not.

**Hon. Mr. Lambert:** Oh yes, you are. I was opposed to the wheat agreement, and I said so quite definitely.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Now will my friend sit down? He has asked his question.

**Hon. Mr. Lambert:** I just corrected a mis-statement.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** If my friend wants to make a speech, let him go ahead.

**Hon. Mr. Lambert:** I will sit down, but first I want my friend to either quote the statement I made regarding the wheat agreement or retract what he has said.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** When we come to the wheat agreement I will show my honourable friend what he said when I criticized buying wheat at less than the market price. My friend is one of those who stood up in this house and said that in the end everything would be adjusted. I said that Britain would not be able to make any adjustment.

**Hon. Mr. Lambert:** I dispute the statement of my honourable friend.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Britain is now talking about opening up exchanges in order that world market prices may be kept down. That is the first step. I now go to the second step.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** Before my honourable friend leaves the wheat question, may I ask him on what authority he bases his statement that we are not going to get compensation when the contract is over?

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Because Great Britain is now trying to make deals with other countries.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** What do you mean by that?

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** She tried to make a deal when she was told by the United States she could have only so much money to buy goods, and 15 million bushels of wheat were turned down and the money diverted to something else.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** I do not think my honourable friend can say definitely that the growers of wheat are not going to get compensation after the contract is over.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Now you are making a speech. If you want to talk, go ahead.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** I am asking a question.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** I say to my honourable friend that that is the kind of talk he gave me when the wheat agreement first came up, and he will have to take it back as soon as the four years are up. The wheat growers will receive no consideration at all for the \$500 million they lost on the British wheat agreement. Great Britain could not compensate the farmers even if she wanted to.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** The Minister of Trade and Commerce in the other house made the statement that the Wheat Board would pay on the participation certificates at the end of four years.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Yes, but if my honourable friend will look at the report on the wheat agreement he will find that the board paid out more money last May and June than it had on hand. The account was overdrawn. In order to provide for payments of 20 cents per bushel the account was overdrawn by \$5,250,000.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** Because the whole crop was not sold.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** If the honourable senator wants to make a speech, he can do so. He has that right. But I did not interrupt him, and I ask him not to interrupt me. If he wants to ask me a question, let him ask it. My words hurt; but let him not get excited.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** I am not excited. You are the one who is excited.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** As I have said, and according to the report I have upstairs, the board, by paying that 20 cents a bushel on the crops for 1945 to 1948, overdrew their account by over \$5 million. That is what happened in the wheat business.

I pass to the next item. It is one about which there is some dispute, and I do not think I shall say very much about it, because Mr. Gordon, President of the Canadian National Railways, has submitted to the Commission on Transportation a proposition to write off the debt owing by the corporation. I do not know exactly what his recommendation is, and I do not want to anticipate it, but the only difference it will make if adopted, will be that the Canadian National Railways as a corporation will not owe as much money as they owe now, and the people of Canada will owe just that much more. If in consequence of such an arrangement the Canadian National Railway is relieved of its obligation, the present charges of \$42 million will disappear, but we shall have to put up all the