

system. I hope my friends from both of the old parties will come to Regina-Lake Centre or any riding in Saskatchewan and try to sell the half-pregnant idea that they are working in their interests.

An hon. Member: We have been successful for 14 years.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): What about Assiniboia?

Mr. Benjamin: The hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek (Mr. McIntosh) could not find a Saskatchewan Wheat Pool member or delegate anywhere in his riding who would agree with his position tonight. I hope he will make the same speech in his riding and give all that jazz about these three grains not being under the Canadian Wheat Board. I hope the hon. member for Saskatoon-Humboldt (Mr. Lang) will talk the same way in his riding and in mine as he does here. How much longer does the government intend to put off the grain producer? What more do they need than the request from—

Mr. Lang: Would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. minister rising to ask a question?

Mr. Lang: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I believe the hon. member is willing to answer one. Does he not agree that more rapeseed is grown in my riding than in his riding and the riding of the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek put together? It may make some difference if we know whether the hon. member is talking about growers of rapeseed or just growers.

Mr. Benjamin: That is perfectly true. There is more rapeseed grown in the minister's riding than in the ridings of the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek and mine put together. I do not know what the minister has been hearing from the rapeseed growers in his riding, but I have been hearing from them and the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar has been hearing from them. I do not know whether the minister has quit reading his mail or whether people have just quit writing him. It may be the latter.

This minister displays a stubbornness and arrogance of a kind not known even to Jimmy Gardiner. He has received representations time after time from the majority of producers in the three Prairie provinces, yet he refuses to listen to one thing they have asked. He chickened out on a couple of things in the stabilization program because these producers were so bloody mad that even his own colleagues would not go along with him. He had only one colleague from Saskatchewan, and we really miss him now.

The minister betrays the grain growers and those who side half-way with him or against him by not bringing these three grains under the Canadian Wheat Board. He also betrays the grain producers in the three Prairie provinces. He had better make up his mind, because this is what it's all about. This is what we will point out

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when we are back home in the hills. The minister cannot have it both ways. He cannot fool the people any longer.

● (9:50 p.m.)

The minister is part of the government. In which way does he want it? He cannot have it both ways any longer. He cannot fob us off with plebiscites. All he need do is take a quick look at all the submissions, briefs and resolutions he has had. I would remind my colleagues in the official opposition to pay a little attention to the grain growers in the three prairie provinces who have been waiting since the end of the Second World War. Then we might have an end to this damned nonsense about the minister may or may not, or the Governor in Council may or may not, put some of these grains under the Canadian Wheat Board.

Why do we need a Winnipeg Grain Exchange? What, in the name of common sense or efficiency or in the name of better returns for farmers, do we need a private grain trade for, jockeying back and forth on prices? That has nothing to do with the welfare and good order of the grain growers. We do not need them. The minister can put representatives of those people on the Canadian Wheat Board if he wishes. Also, he can give the Canadian Wheat Board complete jurisdiction over those three grains. He knows that, but he chooses to be friends to both sides. Well, that is fine; he can try to be friends of those who reside in Winnipeg or occupy the multistoried buildings in that city, but I hope he will come out to Nokomis, Watrous and some of the other places in Saskatchewan and tell the grain producers there about how he brought in legislation which did not fulfil their requests which go back for many years. It will be an interesting exercise to hear him try to explain that. He has not explained it in this House. All he has done is put off the question.

The official opposition now starts the same old hysterical scare-campaign. They say, "Be careful; this minister could almost be considered to be next door to a communist if you are not careful. The very fact that this is permissive legislation might mean that when the bill passes he will place these three grains under the Wheat Board the very next day." Mr. Speaker, to hear them tell it, this guy would make Khrushchev look like a Conservative. Really, most of these outfits would stretch anybody's credibility. To hear them tell it, the minister in charge of the Wheat Board is a wild-eyed, raging left-winger. That ought to send any mild Socialist into hysterics.

The members of the official opposition had better make up their minds once and for all—let us all put our cards on the table—whether they are in favour of a public-controlled or state-controlled, I will use that word because it will suit them better, public marketing system of grains in the territory covered by the Canadian Wheat Board. Let us divide it along those lines so we can see which way the sheep go and which way the goats go.

Mr. McIntosh: You still would not believe it.