

largest purchaser of western grains and that the western farmer was prohibited by tariff from selling his wheat in the United States. I submit that we assumed the proper role at the conclusion of the war by entering into a contract to supply our old customer, the United Kingdom, with wheat at a fair price.

In view of the price of wheat in the United States today one might raise the question of whether or not the price to Great Britain is low. My honourable friend the leader opposite suggests that the people as a whole should pay the difference in price; but he is assuming that had the contract not been made Canadian wheat could be sold today in the United States.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I never mentioned the United States. The wheat board at Winnipeg is asking \$3.35 a bushel today.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: But by reason of wheat contracts abroad there is a short supply in Canada today. Had the contracts not been negotiated, and had Canada a surplus of wheat today, my honourable friend cannot tell whether wheat would be selling at more than \$1.55 on the open market. He knows perfectly well that great demand causes short supply.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: If my honourable friend has any understanding of the grain business, he should know that that has no effect one way or the other.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: I say that with a strong demand on the open market for Canadian grains, and a limited stock available, the price is bound to increase. I merely say that had we not entered into these contracts, and there happened to be a large surplus of wheat on the market—

Hon. Mr. HAIG: But there is not.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: There might very well have been, because today we find that the Argentine has surplus wheat, and Australia has wheat to sell.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: She has sold it too.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: That is so, and tomorrow or next year Russia may be selling wheat. The purpose of the contracts was to give stability to the farmers' economy; and it is quite impossible to argue and, I submit, quite unfair to suggest, that had we not entered into these contracts the price of wheat would have been \$3 a bushel.

The purpose of the motion is simply to enable the government to carry out purchases

from farmers in fulfilment of its contracts, and in pursuance of a policy which is necessary in these abnormal times.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Honourable senators, is it your pleasure to concur in the motion?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: On division.

The motion was agreed to.

#### HONOURABLE SENATOR BUCHANAN ANNIVERSARY OF LETHBRIDGE HERALD— COMPLIMENTARY REFERENCES

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. WISHART McL. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with, I think I should communicate to you a telegram which, after conference with the leader of the opposition, I sent on December 9th to one of our colleagues. Honourable senators may know that in the early part of this month the *Lethbridge Herald*, of which our distinguished colleague Senator Buchanan is the president, had its fortieth anniversary. Having been advised that the Lethbridge Board of Trade was extending to Senator Buchanan a complimentary banquet, I on behalf of my colleagues sent him the following telegram:

The President,  
Board of Trade,  
Lethbridge, Alta.

On the occasion of the Lethbridge Board of Trade paying honour to one of the most distinguished members of the Senate of Canada I wish, on behalf of Senator Haig the leader of the opposition, our colleagues and myself, to join in the expressions of esteem and good wishes. As you pay tribute to the service of Senator Buchanan in the community in which he resides, I wish to pay tribute to him as a member of the Senate. His genial personality, his keen interest in public affairs, and his great sense of public duty have won for him a position of the highest esteem among his colleagues. It is the wish of us all that he be long spared to continue his life of great usefulness in both the community in which he resides and the branch of parliament of which he has long been one of the most outstanding members.

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson, P.C. Leader of the Government in the Senate.

Yesterday I received from Senator Buchanan a letter which, in part, is as follows:

I cannot express to you my feelings about the message you sent to the Board of Trade on the occasion of the dinner they put on in my honour on Thursday night. Naturally I felt proud to have my colleagues in the Senate express themselves in such kindly and far too complimentary terms. I may say that when your message was read, it was warmly applauded.

Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.