

strictly the rules of the house. There is a right to debate this resolution with Your Honour in the chair, and I submit that there is a perfect and unrestricted right to deal in that debate with the matters covered by the resolution. This resolution is broadly worded and I would read it to Your Honour. It reads:

That it is expedient to present a bill to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act, to authorize the board to provide pensions for members, officers and employees and to make provision for the increase of the fixed minimum price on wheat deliveries; to extend the control of inter-provincial movements of wheat products and to empower the governor in council to extend the present system to oats or barley.

I submit that that covers a very wide field and that, as long as the hon. member for Calgary West is dealing with those subjects, he has a right to do so and cannot be confined.

Mr. HOWE: Which one of those subjects has he been dealing with?

Mr. ROWE: With them all and nobody knows it better than you.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I should like to tell hon. members that I am not giving a ruling. I understand perfectly well that the wording of the motion covers what the hon. member has been speaking about.

Mr. CASSELMAN: Why is he not in order, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I called the attention of the house a moment ago to the fact that the motion was that the Speaker do now leave the chair for the house to go into committee of the whole to consider the resolution. I understand that the practice has been to allow wide latitude in discussing the merits of a resolution when the Speaker is in the chair. I do not wish to give a ruling that it can or cannot be done. I am simply trying to be helpful to the house, in suggesting that the same debate should not be carried on twice, in the house and in committee.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, I would draw your attention—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I will ask the hon. member for Calgary West to proceed.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): I am speaking on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, and it is this. From time immemorial when the government comes to the house and asks for money it has been the privilege of the members of the house to lay their grievances at the foot of the throne. The government is asking for money and that is where our opportunity comes in now.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Calgary West.

Mr. SMITH (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Trade and Commerce a moment ago told me that there were only nine days left. Probably we both realize that there is a little less than that now, since we have not advanced very far.

I was endeavouring to confine myself to the latter part of the resolution, which reads:

... and to empower the governor in council to extend the present system to oats or barley and on the proposed amendment thereto.

I was speaking about barley. I have a fair memory, but it does not extend over great periods of time and I have been quiet for so long that probably I have forgotten what I was talking about.

The first thing I say is this. I am entirely opposed to the introduction of those grains into any compulsory system, and I intend to explain why. I can understand the position of the C.C.F. They say: We believe in state control, production and distribution. They have a point of view, and there are many arguments which can be advanced for it. But I say this, that for those of us who have been giving lip service at any rate to private enterprise there is not one shred of excuse for bringing oats and barley into this picture. I go farther and say that the introduction of those coarse grains into this compulsory picture, this police picture—and remember the prosecutions with respect to wheat alone have been four or five hundred a year for the last few years—is without reason; no reason has yet been given why they should be brought under the marketing powers of the wheat board.

I say further that the wheat board a few years ago—and I know what I am talking about—were not in favour of and did not want power over oats and barley. I have the impression that they are still of that view. Perhaps one of the ministers might deal with that at an appropriate time.

What will happen to those who grow it, and I address myself particularly now to my C.C.F. friends who come from the prairies? You put the wheat board and, through them the government, in this spot. Coarse grains are so much different from wheat. Our wheat is exported all over the world; the major portion of it goes abroad. Only a small percentage, practically none at all, of our coarse grains is exported from the country, and only twenty per cent, I think, goes to other provinces. Here you have the wheat board in this spot. Your western farmer wants as much as he can get for his coarse grains. Your eastern and your British Columbia feeder