

do so, and so will the cabinet. Maybe he is one of the silent men in his cabinet. In fact, I may say that he was a very strong man when he was in the opposition but he has proven to be a very weak minister because he has no say in the cabinet whatsoever, and he knows he has not.

An hon. Member: So true.

Mr. Corbin: You are saying that because you are jealous.

Mr. Woolliams: I am not jealous. I would rather stand here with my principles than sit over there without them.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Woolliams: I was about to say that in the last two years Canada has moved from being the first exporting nation of wheat in the world down to sixth place. The minister, who is an intelligent man, knows this. He knows that if we had held our first place as an exporting nation, the western farmers today would not be in the mess which was described so well this week in the *Globe and Mail*. Even they have caught up after two years and realize that the situation is serious in the west. All you have to do is to walk down the streets of Regina. I have not seen anything like it since the 1930's. There is a depression there. We have been talking about inflation in this House, but there is a real recession in western Canada in most major centres as well as in the towns and on the farms, and the minister knows it.

I say to him that with a compulsory board which controls wheat marketing—I will say something about that in a few moments—those salaried people have made a mess in the grain exporting business, which has been intensified by the fact that the Minister of Labour (Mr. Mackasey) would not make any move with regard to strikes in Vancouver while we were losing our markets throughout the world, particularly in Japan, and not upholding our agreements such as the export agreement we had with Russia. The minister knows it and I know it. This is an indictment of the government and an accusation that I make against the government. It is true, and the minister cannot deny it. There is no defence to it.

Mr. Corbin: It is easy to make.

Mr. Woolliams: This may be, but it is easy for the hon. member to sit in his seat. I do not see him standing on his feet and saying anything intelligent in the House.

22218—72½

Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

Mr. Corbin: You are wrong. You are never in the House to listen to my speeches.

Mr. Woolliams: Let the hon. member listen tonight and he will learn something. I thought that was the member that fell out with the government today, but I may have made a mistake. I continue reading:

An analysis of observations relating to the competitive position of Canadian wheat in each of 23 selected wheat markets suggests a variety of causes for the deterioration in Canada's share of export markets. These include a lack of uniformity in the protein content of Canadian wheat shipments;

For the last two years this party has continually told the government that one of our export problems is the protein quantity of our wheat in reference to changing the kind of grading. Nothing was done about that situation up to this session.

Let me go on with this quotation. It then reads:

a lack of flexibility in pricing associated with selling—

What did this government do through the compulsory board? If they make the same mess of the cattle and hogs business, if they put it under this dictatorial act, they will lose markets for the cattle of Canada as effectively as they have lost wheat markets. Let them not deny it because that is a fact.

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

Mr. Woolliams: The minister can ask his question when I am finished. I only have a few moments to get something on the record. I will be prepared to answer the minister's questions any time afterwards. What about flexibility in pricing? While all the exporting wheat nations of the world were cutting their price contrary to the international wheat agreement, Canada sat around doing nothing. I agree that this was long before the minister held his position, but the fact is that Canada sat around and did nothing. Finally, the government and the Wheat Board woke up; the men on salary woke up. It does not matter to them how much wheat they sell, they still get their money. They are not on commission and they do not get an extra amount of money for getting off their posteriors and getting some business.

The selling price beat us. The United States was dumping wheat in Japan and all the other markets of the world, and what did the Liberals say? Their public relations men tell the western producers and a few people here