

Supply—Agriculture

oped for which a solution was never found. As a matter of fact, a most unfortunate tragedy happened recently in the Sherbrooke district. The good mother of six children had to help her husband with the chores morning and night and one morning she left the children with no one to watch them. A child woke up around six, played with fire and the house was burned down with all the children inside. The parents had to helplessly watch the tragedy. Moreover, that good mother who was pregnant of a seventh child, from her hospital bed, heard the judge declare:

That it was criminal to leave young children alone at home.

I, for one, Mr. Chairman, would suggest to that judge that it is criminal to put up with a system under which a mother is obliged to work alongside her husband on a farm which no longer pays, in order to help him keep a roof over his family. That courageous couple is obliged to begin anew, sick at heart, to rebuild its family, because it could not afford to appeal to the services of a farmer, being in that category of farmers who only make an annual income of \$1,200.

Mr. Chairman, similar tragedies occur every day, because most mothers have to do likewise in order to be able to survive. In fact, they cling to the soil, hoping that one day some clear-sighted legislators may at last realize that the people of Quebec still want to feed mankind.

Alas, too often have we realized that in many places it is the struggle for life. Such a state of near starvation prevailing among others, and which is spared us, except in the case of our present unemployed, should become for each of us a torment bordering on obsession. Two billion human beings are dying of hunger and yet assistance to dairy production is threatened to be stopped.

Just wait. When all children in the world have their daily glass of milk, then we can reconsider our dairy industry policy. To present evils, let us apply exceptional remedies as well as economic prices based on those of federal experimental farms.

At present, the operation of any experimental farm is very costly for the government, but in establishing for eastern farmers prices in line with those of the experimental farm, eastern farmers could very well survive; no farmer would then ask for subsidies; they would be satisfied with reasonable profits because, as the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys said yesterday, we live in a country where there certainly are 30 acres of snow.

[Mr. Dumont.]

It would be time now to instal irrigation systems on the farms in order to avoid the disastrous conditions that resulted in severe drought in the west, which cost the government a lot of money. We could thus retain in the soil the micro-organisms that make human life possible, as it is dependent on the fertility of the soil, in order to have food for that population that will double within the next 50 years.

In Canada, for our unemployed, in Palestine, Algeria, Turkey, India, everywhere looms the spectre of famine, and we know that many mothers spend sleepless nights, making do with a piece of bread and giving the rest to their children in order to allay their hunger and prevent them from uttering that cry that wrings the heart and is too often heard: Mother, I am hungry.

The solution is not the planning that socialists recommend because it has been tried in Russia by Mr. Khrushchev, in China by Mao Tse Tung, and it has proven disastrous. Collective farming does not create the same interest that comes from operating a family farm, in so far as its owner can obtain adequate prices.

Unlike the 118 socialists who sit in this house, we do not call on farmers to go back to agricultural school because we feel that they are experts in the art of tilling the soil. It is not by adopting legislation that we will solve the problem of adequate prices.

What we want is a reform of the monetary system so that each class of citizens will get the income they are entitled to according to their hours of work.

That is why I urge the government to set up immediately an accounting board which would keep in mind the fact that wheat can multiply 60 times in two months and a half. Farmers reap in the fall 60 times as much grain as they sow in the spring. That is precisely the meaning of the Social Credit doctrine: the abundance that God wanted man to enjoy can be stated as one grain multiplying 60 times.

Do we have in Canada an accounting board which keeps this in mind?

The Deputy Chairman: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but I must inform him that his time is up.

(Text):

Some hon. Members: Go ahead.