

of Saskatchewan were receiving prices 20 points below the index figure of 1926-29. I am bringing this up not by way of criticism but for the purpose of showing that something must be done to raise the level of prices for the grain farmers at least to parity; for it seems to be inexcusable that Saskatchewan is the only province in the dominion that is receiving grain prices below the basic price of 1926-29. The minister said:

It is all very well to say that there are good prices for eggs, cheese, butter and live stock products, but the figures determine one thing, that there is one type of farmer not dealt with on the same level, the grain farmer.

I mention this for the purpose of asking the minister to consider raising the standard level of prices paid to the grain farmers to the end that our farmers in Saskatchewan may attain parity price or a reasonable price above that amount having regard to all the circumstances.

I welcome this bill as a step in the right direction. Its aim and purpose are commendable. The criticism that I offer is designed only to the end that improvements be placed in the bill. Above all, we in this parliament should put a stop to the perpetuation of bureaucratic controls after the war is over. We have accepted war controls. Every one is legislating to-day, controllers, deputy ministers, heads of departments. It got so bad that the government had to appoint a controller to control the controllers; and yet, Mr. Speaker, that trend is being continued into peace time under legislation such as this. Not only is the trend being continued, but we are delegating authority in this case to a board which in turn has the right to redelegate that authority. We have had some experience of boards during the period of the war which indicate the grave danger of placing power in the hands of individuals removed from parliament and from effective control by the representatives of the people. I ask therefore, so far as the powers of redelegation are concerned, that they be not proceeded with. I ask that this legislation, before it is passed, should give in detail an indication of the circumstances and terms under which it will be operative, to the end that we shall not be in a position of promising much to the farmers, who are expecting much from it, without having at the same time something within the terms of the legislation which will ensure that the prices that are set shall be determined upon such a basis that the farmer will receive not only costs but a fair and reasonable profit.

One thing more, and I pass this on to the Minister of Agriculture. In the post-war period, as all of us believe, the demand for

agricultural products will be tremendous in volume during the first two years or so in the rehabilitation of the countries of Europe. That was the attitude taken by the conference in Atlantic City. Under the provisions of UNRRA, all the countries of the united nations to-day are contributing to a common pool, in order to make available the resources of our various countries in the rehabilitation of the countries of Europe as they are recovered from the enemy. In Canada's contribution, in my opinion, too small a portion is devoted to agricultural products. The other day I saw figures in connection with the United States contribution to UNRRA, and it would seem that the proportion of agricultural products that Canada is contributing to this fund for the rehabilitation and relief of the conquered countries is made on a basis which does not take into consideration to a proper extent, as has been done in the United States, the necessity of reestablishing in those countries in Europe a potential market for our farm products once those nations find themselves in a position again to become a potential market for Canadian farm products. I would appreciate it if the minister would indicate why it is that in this scheme of UNRRA, Canada's contribution of a greater proportion of farm products is not provided for. During the period of the war we have industrialized the country. We in the west have not benefited to the same extent as industrial eastern Canada by war industry. Little have we in the province of Saskatchewan. Out of a matter of almost a billion dollars in capital assistance, to industry, the capital assistance to industry in Saskatchewan has been less than \$2 million. Eastern Canada, and to a lesser extent the Pacific coast, has become greatly industrialized in the period of the war. The central western provinces have not benefited to the same extent. I appeal to the minister to endeavour to secure as large a proportion as possible, and certainly a greater percentage than to-day, of farm products in all future contributions or in all future assignments on the part of Canada to the UNRRA mutual aid and the like so that western agriculture may benefit in the post-war period.

I agree with the principle of the bill, but I do think that certain controls are necessary not only in the interests of the people as a whole but in order to assure the farmer that the hopes being built up by reason of this legislation shall be realized and that after the war the price he will receive will be in keeping with the fact that, through his patriotism in time of war, he has consented to his prices being kept down.