

ber, 1939, when we were in the special war session. He had this to say:

I come to profiteering. I believe I have already stated in this house that I know of nothing in the world more contemptible than that any man should seek to profit from the sacrifices which others are making.

Let me observe here that we in the farming industry are making sacrifices and have done so for a number of years. Let this statement apply to those who are profiteering at the expense of the farmer. The Prime Minister continued:

And if the laws and other measures which this government may introduce and seek to enforce are not sufficiently strong to destroy anything in the nature of profiteering, I hope hon. members of this house will bring to our attention, in a way that will also bring it to the attention of this country, what we ought to do to achieve that all-important end. There are some things that are very difficult of accomplishment. Unfortunately human nature has its weak and its bad sides as well as its strong and good sides. Sometimes it is very difficult to cope effectively with the underworld and its methods. But let me say this: I care not who the individual may be, how respectable in his own eyes or in the eyes of others he may appear, or what position he may hold; if in this crisis he seeks to profiteer he belongs to the underworld and should be treated as one of those who menace all that is sacred in the human relations.

I am not deliberately singling out any particular company, but I am going to give just one example; this is taken from the *Ottawa Citizen* of May 16, 1940:

Net Profit of \$9,820,114 for Int. Nickel.

The report of the International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited, and subsidiaries for the three months ended March 31, 1940, issued by Robert C. Stanley, chairman and president, shows a net profit of \$9,820,114 after all charges, depreciation, taxes, etc., equivalent after preferred dividend requirements, to 64 cents a share on the 14,584,025 no par shares of common stock outstanding.

This compares with a net profit of \$10,262,660 or 67 cents a common share in the preceding quarter, \$9,547,300 or 62 cents in the three months ended March 31, 1939, and \$10,113,764 or 66 cents in the first quarter of 1938.

I repeat that I am not singling out that company; I happened to have that clipping, and since I had a very short time to prepare my speech this evening, I am citing that as an instance of what is going on in Canada to-day. On the other hand I have given the house some indication of the difficulties which farmers are up against, and I would ask the Prime Minister to take into serious consideration those noble words which he spoke on September 8. Somebody says he forgot them. I hope this will bring them back to his attention.

In this house, for a number of days, in fact for a number of weeks, we have been follow-

ing very closely the actions of the British government. While we copy their actions in some directions, may I suggest that in the interests of some of the underdogs in this country we should follow them in other lines. I read from the "Journal of the Parliaments of the Empire" for April, 1940, page 253, under the heading, "Doubling the country's production":

The Minister of Agriculture should have a clear objective and should attempt nothing less than doubling the food production of the country. Mr. Lloyd George enumerated six points that should be dealt with:

The farmer must know that if he doubled his production there was an assured market for his produce.

Prices paid must cover the cost of production, which they did not do now.

In connection with that, I might say that the last price I have seen which the British farmer gets for his wheat is \$1.31 a bushel.

The state should subsidize all well-thought-out drainage schemes.

Active steps should be taken by the state to ensure an ample supply of lime and fertilizers.

Cheap capital should be available for all that was necessary to enable the cultivator to bring the soil to the highest pitch of fertility.

Adequate labour should be provided to carry out this programme.

I believe that this government should follow the steps of the British government along that line. They have followed it in other respects, particularly, I believe, in connection with Bill No. 43, section two of which reads as follows:

Subject to the provisions of section 3 hereof, the governor in council may do and authorize such acts and things, and make from time to time such orders and regulations, requiring persons to place themselves, their services and their property at the disposal of his majesty in the right of Canada, as may be deemed necessary or expedient for securing the public safety, the defence of Canada, the maintenance of public order, or the efficient prosecution of the war, or for maintaining supplies or services essential to the life of the community.

We supported that bill in part. We tried to have it changed so that the burden should be distributed more fairly, so that the principle of equality of sacrifice should be put into operation, but we were not able to accomplish that purpose. The bill has been passed, and we find that the farmer is the first upon whom these powers are being practised. As far as I can see, at the present time there is nothing to do but accept the price offered.

We are practically out of markets at the present time, and yet only a couple of days ago a budget was brought down imposing still further taxes on the farming population, if not directly at any rate indirectly. Speaking of the price of wheat, I said I was not referring