

I will ask the men from western Canada if they know Captain Robert Pearson, John Pearson whose two uncles were in the Ontario legislature, and men of no mean mentality. By the way I do not think we have any longer any supermen. To me in the future the opinion of the man on the street will be just as good as that of the superman because it was the supermen who led us into the depression and they were nowhere to be seen to lead us out of it. I would ask any people in western Canada if they know this man Pearson in my riding who has lost \$2,000, and can afford to lose it, and who is now out west again to bring home more cattle and fatten them and pass them on to the old land. But Mr. Chairman, there are men who cannot afford to lose this money. Yesterday I drove around my county and it was borne in upon me that there was going to be a sad wreckage. I came upon the parish priest who had been cheering up two parishioners, urging them to hold on a little longer, that some relief might come. I was not able to say that there would be relief although I had been led to believe here and there that there might be a little ray of hope.

I had gone to the bank managers who loaned the money asking them to be patient and now to-night I am asking the government not to take any cold business attitude on this matter. It is the duty of the strong to protect the weak. To say that we fitted out sixteen ships and that fourteen were good and two were bad is a fair batting average, and the minister should be given credit that he selected fourteen out of sixteen that were good. I do not think he should be at all offended to be told that two of the sixteen which his department selected were tubs—and, if they had searched the great metropolis of Montreal they could not have found three greater crooks upon whom to confer a diploma to go out into my county than the men they selected. E. A. D. Morgan is consulting solicitor of the company. When I said to him, "Mr. Morgan, you are more than solicitor," he got angry. He was the promoter, the man who came with high pressure salesmanship and put the thing over. There might be a medical college that would grant a diploma to some man who never studied medicine a day in his life. They might give him a diploma to go out and operate on the people of this country. And here were people who, according to Clarkson's report, did not even have the proverbial shoestring to start on, not a shoestring, not a dollar. If the officials of the Department of Trade and Commerce had

(Mr. Spotton.)

asked to see this company's charter, they would have seen the most fourflushing document that ever decorated a page. This is what these men who had no capital proposed to do according to their charter:

To build, acquire, lease, or operate elevators, buildings, or wharves, for the handling or storage of grain.

To buy, sell, or deal in cattle, horses, hogs or any and every kind of live stock and poultry including feeding, fattening, and in connection with the business of the company to establish stores, agencies, depots and other markets for the sale of the products of the company, including the right to manufacture, ship, deal in and sell canned goods or prepared meats, or foods of all description.

I suppose the officials of the Department of Trade and Commerce who were supposed to be a light unto the feet and a lamp unto the path of the farmers of this country asked these people to show their testimonials. Further, they were going—

To build, purchase, lease and operate vessels whether propelled by steam or otherwise, and to carry cargo of any description in connection therewith.

Nay, more:

To promote, organize, manage or develop or to assist in the promotion, organization, management or development of any corporation, company, syndicate, enterprise or undertaking and to do all acts necessary or incidental thereto.

This may be legal phraseology, but I call to my witness the wrecks that have been strewn over this country in the past ten years, financial wrecks aided by legal phraseology. Imagine this, Mr. Chairman:

To subscribe for, underwrite, buy, sell, exchange, hold, hypothecate or otherwise deal in the stock, bonds, debentures, and other securities of any municipal, industrial or financial corporations or companies.

To enter into any arrangement for sharing profits or union of interests with any person or company carrying on or engaged in or about to carry on or engage in and to take or otherwise acquire shares and securities of any such company; and to sell, hold, resell with or without guarantee or otherwise deal in the same.

A company that never had a dollar, did not have a dollar and, heaven knows, that will ever have a dollar! Two out of the three men bankrupt and the other a lawyer whose name is to-night a by-word in the city of Montreal! Those were the three men who were granted the diploma studded by thirteen thousand golden dollars, to go up into my county and say to my farmers: "We would like to buy your cattle." "Well, we do not know who you are." "Well, we are just this good that the Department of Trade and Commerce spent \$13,000 to fit up boats to assist us to ship your cattle." That is a