

suggest a quota basis of delivery to elevators be provided, in order that farmers might have an opportunity of immediately marketing some of their crop as it is harvested. We also pointed out that if it were necessary there are already set up the municipal units, and the secretary-treasurers might be utilized in the matter of issuing certificates and regulating that quota delivery. They have all the necessary information at their disposal and are in a much better position than anyone else to make a quick check on the acreage and handle matters of that kind on behalf of the farmers.

The problem of financing the coming crop is of major importance, especially if we harvest the anticipated four hundred million bushels. In the past the producer was required to deliver his crop in public storage before realizing upon it by way of sale or advance on the purchase price. That will not be possible this fall if, as I have said, we harvest this anticipated crop. Therefore we have recommended that an advance be made against this crop in storage on the farm. I know it has been pointed out by the Minister of Mines and Resources, who, however, I think is away out, that it is all moonshine and so on; but if what we recommend is not done, and we harvest this anticipated crop, we shall have all sorts of difficulties, just as bad as moonshine probably, throughout the west this fall in providing the necessities of life for these people and maintaining the standard of education and hospitalization which is essential. Therefore the committee advocated a system of loans or advances to these people provided it is not found feasible to market a fairly large percentage of their crop at once.

It was further suggested that consideration is required with respect to coarse grain, in order, as has already been pointed out, to relieve the western situation and provide eastern and Pacific coast farmers with cheaper feed than the grain hitherto imported from other countries. Greater use should be made of oats and barley grown in the prairie provinces and this should be facilitated by reduced freight rates. Our provincial departments of agriculture might do a great deal to help. I was astounded on hearing the hon. member for Royal the other evening speaking of the cost of these products produced by us in the west to the dairy farmers in his province. This is chiefly due to freight rates, and in that respect a great deal could be done which would be of mutual benefit.

One question gives me great concern at this time. When a business man figures that he cannot make a profit, it is customary for him to quit business. The farmers of the west have been operating on that basis for

many years. I ask hon. members this; If the farmers in general, who are operating at an immense loss, decided to quit operating, would they be termed anything but traitors to Canada during this war? I realize that we have difficulties in legislating for a country so large as Canada. In my opinion it should be the duty of all hon. members to travel throughout this country from coast to coast in order to become acquainted with each other's problems and be in a position to view those problems from a national point of view. In war time the stability and solidarity of the home front is of no less importance than the war front, and it is something which we should consider at this time even if doing so involves some departure from the orthodox financial beliefs of the past. I trust this wheat committee, when their bill is brought down, will be able to go a little further perhaps than has been anticipated up to the present time in order to cope with what appears to be a very serious situation now facing us.

Progress reported.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

PRESENTATION OF SECOND REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BILL 98

Second report of the special committee on Bill No. 98, respecting unemployment insurance—Mr. McLarty.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD ACT

AMENDMENTS ARISING OUT OF LOSS OF OVERSEAS MARKET, EXISTING STOCKS AND HANDLING OF 1940 CROP—INITIAL PAYMENT OF 70 CENTS

The house resumed consideration in committee of the following resolution—Mr. MacKinnon (Edmonton West)—Mr. Fournier (Hull) in the chair:

That it is expedient to bring in a measure to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act to provide for exigencies arising from loss of overseas markets for wheat, from the large existing stocks of wheat in Canada, and from the problem of handling the 1940 wheat crop.

Mr. PERLEY: At the outset, Mr. Chairman, I desire to express my disappointment because of the fact that this house has been in session for over two months and this measure is brought in only now. I suppose we shall be expected to pass it in a day or two, since I believe an effort is being made to