

*The Address—Mr. Mullins*

ance to western Canada, as a jest. The telegram continues:

Intend purchasing one thousand choice feeders immediately. Reply. Put me in touch with the best markets. Immediate purchase and despatch. Confirm wireless to ss. Paris.

That man came out to this country and I helped him to get five hundred steers, which he took over to England and met a wonderful market there. Then we got thousands of cattle going over there at the very time that the trade was dormant. There was nothing doing until the stigma was taken off our cattle and the British market was opened up to us.

While the embargo was on we met with a lot of opposition from Ireland. I am sorry that the former Minister of Labour (Mr. Heenan) is not in his seat, because he is a good Irishman. I say, Mr. Speaker, that Ireland could not stand the competition of the Canadian steer. They had that market to themselves over there.

I object, and did object strenuously in western Canada, to our young steers going out of Canada to the United States. The former Minister of Agriculture should have taken steps to stop our young steers from leaving Canada to be fattened in the United States, and then shipped back to Canada as beef. Imagine thousands of our cattle, in a country such as this, leaving Winnipeg, where the cattle could have been fattened, because there is so much coarse feed in that country, and going to the United States to be fattened, and then the beef being shipped back to the leading hotels in Canada. That was another instance of our raw products being exported. I urge the present Minister of Agriculture and this government to do something to stop our young steers going out to the United States. Let us get them back on the land where feed is cheap. There is no country in the world like Canada for feeding cattle out of doors. No country has such wonderful possibilities as western Canada in that respect. What a chance we have to raise these steers cheap, with thousands of tons of hay in stack outside Winnipeg right now; and yet there is not an animal on feed. Think of it! Your beautiful little farms in Ontario could be utilized in finishing off these cattle, and then they could go forward to England. There is one chance for us out west, and that is to ship our cattle over the Hudson Bay route. The road will be finished pretty soon, and it will be a wonderful route. It is a cool route, and the cattle will stand the trip to the old country better.

The Scotch people want our cattle. We have a market over there for hundreds of thousands of our cattle. They want a one

[Mr. Mullins.]

thousand pound steer, three parts finished, so they can finish them off. Ireland sent a representative out to this country to make a survey, and he found that there was nothing doing because the former Minister of Agriculture had abolished the policy of putting out pure-bred sires. It was suicidal to abolish that policy of scattering pure-bred sires over the western plains. It was unfair to the cattle trade of western Canada for the former Minister of Agriculture to abrogate that policy, and that is largely responsible for the condition in which we find ourselves to-day in western Canada. We would not be in such a position to-day were it not for the policies of hon. gentlemen opposite.

I do not wish to take up much of the time of the house, but I know the actual circumstances; I tried in years past to lend a hand to hon. gentlemen opposite, who turned a deaf ear to my plea, and I cannot now remain silent in my seat. I expect to see the present Minister of Agriculture bring down a policy which will stop our young steers going out of Winnipeg, and secure a cheap freight rate to the farms where these cattle can be fed on the coarse feed that we have out west. I expect to see a trade develop that has been ignored in the past while hon. gentlemen opposite were in office.

I wish to say a few words on the subject of marketing. I believe in cooperation, but not the kind of cooperation that was applied by the gentleman who held the portfolio of Minister of Railways, Mr. Crerar, in the late government. He put his nose into my constituency, Mr. Speaker, but he did not get recognized. Wherever he spoke I received the biggest majority I ever had. I could not figure out how the leader of the late government ever took a man like that into his cabinet. Mr. Crerar tried to deal with that little group across the floor to my right. He tried to bargain with them, but he did not get them. I have every confidence in that group over there; I know where they stand. Mr. Crerar tried to bargain with them in Saskatoon and said: If you will come into the Liberal fold, we can get three or four portfolios for you. But he did not get them in at all. The people got tired of his bargaining.

What else did Mr. Crerar do? He was president of the United Grain Growers, and he put in a system of this kind—the farmers had some confidence in him as president of the United Grain Growers, and they thought that he would treat them right. They brought in their cattle, and then Mr. Crerar brought