

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Not the whole of it. There was a million and a half for grasshoppers plus the balance of the six million for relief, public works and roads. All of this is very handy in an election year.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: Does the hon. gentleman object to this government loaning money to Saskatchewan?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Oh, no, but you will not get their votes that way. I have the dates and amounts for ten items. There was \$149,000 on the last day of April. However, this appears in the votes and proceedings on May 1 and we can follow the same procedure on June 1. On May 1 there was \$1,500,000; on the same date there was another \$1,500,000 for relief from drought and relief from grasshopper damage. This was not for control but for relief occasioned by the damage done by the grasshoppers. On May 3 there was \$9,800; on May 8, \$35,000; on May 10, \$5,000; on May 16, \$7,000—I am just giving the round figures—on May 17, \$10,000; on May 23, \$700, and on May 21, \$750,000. On May 23 there was \$500,000—that was the one we were discussing the other night—and on the same day, \$1,500,000, making in all \$5,958,569—and, to be exact, 79 cents. I do not know what that was thrown in for, I am sure, but it will not kill many hoppers. I suppose, however, it was to be exact.

Now for Manitoba, and here is the map. I have not the combined map showing all the prairie provinces consecutively; I forgot to bring it down but I have it. It shows the expansion of these grasshoppers last year owing to the neglect of the government to do anything special to cope with the evil as they admittedly are doing this year. I have looked over the entire lot of loans sent out to all three prairie provinces but I could not find any one that was sent out earmarked for grasshopper control except the \$1,500,000 loan on May 23 to Saskatchewan, exactly the same as this one. This is the only one of its kind which I know of, in any year since confederation. It is to be found at page 360, being order in council No. 1051 of May 23, 1934, authorizing the loan of \$1,500,000 to Saskatchewan for the purpose of meeting commitments incurred or to be incurred in extending relief to farmers in the province by way of grasshopper control, and by loans to the farmers covering seed operations for the 1934 crop season, including purchase of seed grain. So that it is not all for grasshoppers. But that is the only one I have discovered in any year in any province since grasshoppers were, well, knee high to a grasshopper. I think we are entitled to a good deal more explanation than we have had.

And what about Alberta? I am not here to plead for Alberta, but that province is as red as a fox on the map with grasshoppers over almost as large an area but doubtless not all cropped area. And here you have Manitoba in the same plight. What do they get for the month of May? The total federal loans to Alberta for all purposes in the month of May amount to \$1,159,168, and for Manitoba—poor little Manitoba; she used to be called the postage stamp province but she is not that now, though she is as regards the amount she gets in this connection—\$1,101,258 loan, for all purposes, but none earmarked for grasshopper control.

The bright idea just dawned on this government, the very next day after we discussed the subject a week ago last Friday, that it would be a good plan to earmark some of this for grasshoppers. The records show this; they show that it was done either on the Saturday following that Friday's discussion or on the following Monday. Of course, all this does not prove anything, but as I said before, it was a remarkable coincidence that all this money should be pouring into Saskatchewan at the time of an election, to the tune of nearly \$6,000,000, while this relatively small amount—\$2,260,426—is loaned to the two adjoining provinces put together.

I think the minister should make an explanation; the explanation should not come from myself, but in justice to myself, and in view of what I said the other night, I have dug these facts out of the votes and proceedings. And here are the official maps drawn by the minister's own department.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: I am sure the hon. gentleman does not want to make political capital—

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Oh no, but I want to let the country know what my hon. friends are doing—

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: Quite so.

Mr. McINTOSH: Are they trying to buy them with their own money?

Mr. MOTHERWELL:—pour into that province another five millions. I will not object to it, but I can tell my hon. friends that it will be of no avail to them politically. Nothing will save the situation for them out there—not if they put in the entire agreement amount, and I do not know what that is. Maybe my hon. friend opposite, the dean of the government, who is getting a little bit worried, will let us know to what amount they go in the agreement with Saskatchewan this year. What is the aggregate of loans to Saskatchewan provided for under the last agreement?