

Supply—Agriculture

must yield the floor to some other hon. member, unless he is granted unanimous consent to proceed. If he is asking unanimous consent, then of course I shall put the question immediately and ask hon. members if he has it.

Mr. Blackmore: I am not asking for unanimous consent for that which is my right. The rules say specifically that I have that right.

The Chairman: Then I must ask the hon. member to yield the floor to some other hon. member, or I shall call another item.

Mr. Blackmore: Then, Mr. Chairman, I challenge your ruling.

The Chairman: Does the hon. member wish me to report the occurrence to Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Blackmore: I challenge your ruling, and ask that you take whatever action is necessary.

Mr. Knowles: It will take half an hour.

The Chairman: In that case I would have to rise and report the occurrence to Mr. Speaker, to obtain a decision in the matter.

Mr. Gardiner: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think if the hon. member is given unanimous consent to proceed he would not take too long to wind up what he has to say.

Mr. Blackmore: Thank you; that is good. I do not want anything unpleasant, but I want my rights.

The Chairman: Has the hon. member unanimous consent to proceed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Blackmore: It will take only a minute or two to show how, as she is at present managing, the United States cannot avoid accumulating such surpluses and being thus constrained to compete with everything Canada produces. She will use part of the sterling she will get from Great Britain to strengthen the British defence effort and thereby strengthen NATO, and part of that sterling she will use in purchasing military equipment to supply the nations who obtain mutual aid from the United States. There is no need to show how impossible it would be for Canada to compete against this sort of thing. Thus a \$73.9 million British market for grain is closed to Canada.

At the same time, Secretary of Agriculture Benson has pointed out that the United States cannot afford to allow outside farm products to come into the United States to compete with the United States products held at subsidized prices. Not only is the United States stealing our markets, but she is closing her

markets to us. It is obvious that we are being placed in a very difficult squeeze.

The United States is bartering much of her surplus agricultural products of various kinds, not only grain. Since permission was given last year to Secretary Benson to barter, more than \$82 million worth of commodities have been exported to 23 countries in exchange for imports valued at \$53 million. Look at what has happened there. Some \$82 million worth of products have been bartered for commodities valued at only \$53 million. In other words the United States has lost the difference between \$53 million and \$82 million in value, and she has done that in order to get rid of surplus products, which shows how serious her competition is for Canada; and it will become more serious. The surplus products which she has been bartering include corn, flaxseed, grain sorghum, cottonseed oil, barley, oats and cotton. The countries with which she has bartered include Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Yugoslavia, England, Ireland, Scotland, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, India, Formosa, Japan, Korea, Colombia, Peru, which is enough to show at how many points the United States is impinging on possible Canadian external markets.

What can we do to resist the pressure of a nation like that? The United States financial and economic strength is so great that she will be able to force her surpluses into world markets to a tremendous degree because she has such an enormous population. She also has vast resources; she has great industrial strength; she has great financial strength, every one of which is superior to the greatest degree. We have hardly any chance at all to compete.

The only way Canada could hope to compete with the United States in foreign markets under circumstances like that would be for Canada to adopt a scheme for using her national credit, similar to that which Japan employed in 1933. That is a possible solution. There will be those who will begin to wonder whether or not the proposal I am making here is sound. I point out that Japan used this scheme in 1933. What did she do? I am not going to go into detail at the present time. Later I may tell the committee something about the achievements and the methods Japan used whereby she was able to put her products into foreign markets at prices utterly impossible for them to compete with.