

interested that if there is delay in getting apples into these storage plants they may deteriorate as much in one day outside as in ten days when placed in proper storage. The same can be said with reference to poultry and other agricultural products. As long as there is this wastage which I have endeavoured briefly to outline I think every one will agree that there is room for great improvement in the marketing of farm products.

Then our products are sold in two markets: for export, and for domestic consumption. If often happens that a small surplus sold in the export market affects injuriously the price of the whole quantity sold in the domestic market, and especially now when world competition is so keen it is necessary that we should take every possible care to make certain that our goods when sold on the export market shall be of a quality that will create a demand for Canadian products. Anyone who has followed the matter at all closely will agree that some of the products that go from the dominion to the world market at present have a bad effect on the demand. I believe that steps, not too drastic, should be taken to prevent products that would have a detrimental effect on the demand for our goods from going out. Then in connection with our domestic market, it will be of interest to the house to learn—it was a surprise to myself when I learned it first—of the very high percentage of some of our natural products absorbed by the domestic market. For example, the percentage of home consumption of certain items is as follows:

Eggs.	99.8
Sheep and lamb.	99.4
Butter.	98.9
Poultry.	98.3
Cattle and beef.	97.3
Potatoes.	96.9
Hogs and pork.	95.4
Oats.	94.1
Barley.	88.2

The only way that a greater return can be obtained for the producer is by some change in the method of marketing, to eliminate some of the wastage that I have outlined.

Another instance of wastage is in connection with live stock. In October and November of 1933 over 38,000 more cattle were marketed in the dominion than in October and November of 1932. They were to a great extent cattle that were not ready to be slaughtered at the time they were marketed, and the result was not only a sacrifice for the people who sold them, resulting in a poor price to them, but a decline quite out of proportion to their number in the price of better cattle. Some farmers who had feed could not

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buy these cattle to finish them because they had no money, while other farmers who had money were short of feed.

I think then that everyone will agree that there has been wastage, and that it is to the interest of all that the producer should receive more for his product. A great deal of thought and consideration has been given to the preparation of this marketing bill. Because of the great variety of natural products of the dominion, of the large area from which products of similar type are drawn, and of the difficulties arising out of the respective rights of the provinces and the dominion, it has been no easy task to formulate a plan to bring about improvement in the marketing of our natural products. It was felt that it was impossible to see far enough into the future the needs and difficulties that would arise in the marketing of these various products, especially with agriculture in its present condition, to permit of rigid provisions. Therefore it was felt that the bill should be flexible, giving opportunity for producers and groups of producers to submit their collective ideas concerning the marketing of their products. Ample provision is made to give to the producer the fullest measure of control of the product, if he wishes to organize, with a view to the production of a high quality product coming on the market at a planned rate. Power is given in the bill to make certain that undue profits will not be taken by those engaged in the work of marketing. That will apply just as much to the co-operative organization as to the private trader. I believe co-operative organizations for buying and selling have come into being largely because it was felt that there was no control of the spread or toll taken from the producer in the marketing of his goods. At the same time if they feel they can market their goods more economically by combined and co-operative effort, provision is made to enable them to do so. I have discussed this bill with the trade as well as with the cooperatives; they also see the necessity of it, because they realize that they have paid a great price owing to there having been no regulation or planning of production and quality of product. I personally believe that in large measure the organized trade, trained as it is in the specialized business of getting the product from the producer to the consumer, is the best and cheapest method of carrying on the business. On the other hand, while the producers were becoming organized in order to carry on the work of regulating, and in some cases, selling their own products, it was thought only fair that the government should take the necessary powers to assist those engaged in agriculture