

helping to supply the starving people of Europe with a reasonable portion of our meat. The stock men are just as kind-hearted as any others, but they are not quite satisfied with the way the industry has been treated. I will be somewhat frank. If you look at today's reports of the Toronto stock market you will see that yesterday 2,500 cattle were left over. Our stock raisers are quite ready to sell their cattle if they can get a price in keeping with the cost price of stockers in the spring, of the cost price of stockers in the spring, and of labour to look after their cattle. I was talking to a prominent stock dealer in Toronto last week, and I am going to repeat his remarks. He said: "The trouble is with the board in Ottawa. There is one man on that board, Mr. Todd, who has a more active brain than the other members. He has been in the employ of the packers for some time, and on account of his great ability he has been able to manipulate things in such a way that the packers have been able to reduce the price of cattle when they so desire." It is not a question of honesty. The objection is that he has practically put the industry into the hands of the packers; in the language of the stockyards, he has been able to outsmart the other members of the board.

As I said a moment ago, we have no objection at all to our beef being used to supply the distressed people of Europe. During the war the Government set up various agencies in order to get things done, and secured men of great ability to manage them. What objection would there be to a Government agency going out into the country and buying cattle? The stock men are anxious to sell. Let the Government buy the cattle, process them and send the beef to Europe. Then our stock men would be very glad to supply the cattle.

It is in the interest of this country that there be a ready market for our cattle. There are districts in the West where there is abundance of grass and hay, but there are other districts which are very dry. The stock men there desire to get a market for their cattle. If our Ontario men could get a market for their finished cattle at a reasonable price they would be very glad to buy that stock in the West and feed it in the winter time. But they must have some assurance of a market. I think my suggestion would get over the present difficulty.

As Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture I would have accepted the proposal of the honourable leader opposite to bring the officials concerned before our committee; but I understand that we are adjourning for two weeks, and as this is a very live issue today it would then be just too late to do anything.

Hon. IVA C. FALLIS: Honourable senators, I should like first of all to associate myself with those who have preceded me in extending my congratulations to his Honour the Speaker, and also to the mover and the seconder of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, who, along with the honourable leader on the Government side (Hon. Mr. Robertson), have directed their attention mainly to the matters therein referred to. Perhaps I may be allowed for a few moments to speak upon a problem of major importance to the people of this country, but which received no more than a passing nod in the Speech from the Throne—the problem of employment.

While primarily a Government responsibility, this matter is of vital concern to us all. We are all equally anxious to find the right answer to the problem. Probably all of us have our own individual ideas concerning the solution. It may be that from the pooling of these ideas some benefit will come, or some assistance towards the solution of the problem.

My personal opinion today is fundamentally the same as the one I have expressed in this House on more than one occasion during the past two or three years. The three main points, the vital points in my estimation, are these. First, it is the primary responsibility of the government of a country to provide work in so far as it is humanly possible, and to provide adequate remuneration for that work. Second, it is the first responsibility of the individual citizen to accept that work and to do it to the best of his ability, in so far as he is physically and mentally capable. In the third place, I believe that the measure of a country's greatness is still the measure of thrift, of energy and initiative of the average individual citizen—

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mrs. FALLIS: —and that parliamentary legislation and government leadership should be aimed towards developing, and not destroying, those characteristics in the individual.

I firmly believe that the situation in which Labour and Government find themselves today could have been avoided to a large extent if the Government during the past few years had spent less time and thought on over-zealous paternalism, and had laid more stress on the responsibility of the individual. When, during the recent federal election campaign, and since, the Minister of Labour met every question regarding employment with the airy answer: "There are jobs for all, and to spare," the workers naturally concluded that the Minister meant what he said, and they were to