

had some doubts as to its success, but from that moment I realized that the agricultural classes wished to get together in order to help one another and overcome the obstacles which they might have to face. I may add that the cooperative has met some difficulties but with the help of its 550 members, belonging to fifteen parishes in the vicinity of Granby, it has succeeded in overcoming them. In short, unlike a trust, the cooperative instead of exploiting the farmers, has made them prosperous and it wishes to continue to do so. It has entrusted its management with the creation of a powdered milk division which would produce for every hundred pounds of fluid milk thirteen pounds of powdered milk priced at thirty cents a pound, plus the bonus of thirty cents per 100 pounds; it would mean a profit of \$4.40 which the cooperative would pass on to the farmers.

Let me add, Mr. Speaker, that I am acquainted with the cooperative movement in our province and that I give it credit for having helped the farmers to withstand hard times, because I remember how, not long ago, the farmers were living in poverty. As regards the provisions concerning the co-operatives in this budget, I support the amendments proposed by the Department of Finance and the general attitude of the government, but I reserve the right to criticize the provisions of any bill that may be based on the government's proposals. I wish to take this occasion to compliment the minister for having spread over three years the income tax to be paid by the farmers.

Hogs are also raised on a large scale in my constituency, which in this regard takes a high rank, in proportion to its population. While I was speaking of butter a few moments ago some of my colleagues no doubt were thinking of the by-products. Yes, Mr. Speaker, a medal always has two sides and you, no doubt, know that the slaughtering permit system was adopted so as to control and ration meat; and, for my part, I consider these permits, as far as pork is concerned, as having outlived their usefulness, and I wish to bring the facts of the matter to your attention. Each month, a permit holder can only slaughter his quota, which is very low in our rural districts. It happens that a number of farmers take pigs to the slaughtering house, when they are ready, but the permit holder has to tell them that his quota being filled, he cannot accept them. The farmers must then take them back to the farm and wait another month in order to comply with the instructions of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, and when they take them back they are placed in a lower class, if not rejected.

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I revert now, Mr. Speaker, to my opening remarks on the throne speech. For more than a year the European war has been a thing of the past. We are glad of it but we realize that many countries who have resisted to the armed forces of an enemy bent on world domination are still to-day in the throes of privation, suffering and even starvation. May I remind those people overseas that Canada understands the sacrifices they have made to protect us from the dictators. We are prepared to help them as much as we can. We wish to develop. We desire the memory of those who fell on the battlefields to live forever. We intend to increase our export trade which has been promoted by the war.

In conclusion, I would ask the leaders of Canada to supply the needs of our own people, for charity begins at home. By such action we shall prosper, thus acknowledging that the sacrifices accepted for the glory of our country have not been useless.

May I repeat, Mr. Speaker, what I said at the beginning of my speech when I commended the stand taken by the Minister of Finance. In expressing by appreciation of the budget I told him that I understood the thankless task devolved upon him. I grant that, in view of the difficult years that lie ahead, he can hardly count on the improvement of the situation and I am sure that, under the circumstances, if all the members of this house who are more conversant than I am with parliamentary procedure, should undertake to supply some constructive criticism and express ideas which might directly or indirectly be of benefit to the Minister of Finance, while at the same time endorsing the present budget we should thus become truly worthy of the confidence shown us by our constituents and be of service to our party and our country.

(Text):

Mr. Speaker, with your permission I should like to make the second part of my speech in English. I want you to know that it will be quite a task for me to attempt to express myself in a language which is not my own, but please believe that I am glad to do so in order to show the hon. members of this house the understanding that prevails in my riding among the French and English speaking people. I would ask you to be my interpreter with the English speaking members of this house and to offer them my congratulations for the initiative so many of them have shown in learning French. This will give French and English speaking members an opportunity to express their own opinions and to understand one another better after so many years of misunderstanding, all of which will be to the greater advantage of our country.