

coming from Canada or any other country unless he is quite certain that, after he has developed that appetite and the potential market, the market will be filled.

While the conference was in progress and while I was in attendance to gather the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table, I had an opportunity of coming into contact with a number of the delegates and officials there. That question was discussed by me with them and there was unanimity on the part of all those from Great Britain with whom I spoke, that while that country would be quite willing to transfer a portion of her trade in bacon and other commodities from Denmark and other countries outside the empire to Canada, that could be done only if the British importers and consumers were as well assured of receiving a regular supply of uniform quality from us as they are now assured of receiving from Denmark. The same provision applies to cattle. To my mind it is obvious that if we are to get this business, the appointment as soon as is reasonably possible of an export board which can supervise and control that trade, becomes essential. I know this is in the mind of the government. May I express the hope that in order that we may take as full advantage as is possible of whatever conditions may be imposed—and it will be noticed that I am not speaking now of what conditions may be imposed—not only will the question of exchange be dealt with, but a marketing board will be established which will be able to guide, regulate and control that trade so that we may take full advantage of any opportunities that are offered.

Mr. POULIOT: Would it not be appropriate to quote Shakespeare on the matter? Is it not refreshing to think that this agreement can be compared with that well known play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Mr. POULIOT: This article is very interesting; it relates to the pig industry, but it should read the "potential" pig industry. To complete article 6 may I read an excerpt from page 124 of *Hansard* of October 12, when the right hon. the Prime Minister said:

Under favourable marketing conditions and with a price maintained continuously above the cost of production, Canada has potential possibilities—

Those potential possibilities are synonymous with hog futures:

—for the production of 8,500,000 hogs by 1937—

When several of us and many farmers throughout this country will be dead, as well as many hogs:

—permitting of an export volume of 300,000,000 pounds of bacon and 10,000,000 hogs by 1942, permitting of an export volume of 500,000,000 pounds of bacon and hams.

That is an enormous, a voluminous quantity of hogs and bacon and ham. During the last weekends I had the opportunity to visit and meet farmers in different communities in Ontario and Quebec, and I find that the farmers are reading *Hansard* with great interest. They read the speeches made by every member of this house and pay particular attention to the speeches delivered by the right hon. gentleman who leads the government. They tried to read between the lines of the excerpt I have just quoted to understand what the right hon. gentleman meant by potential hog possibilities. They asked me for an explanation and I gave the same explanation to the farmers of Ontario that I gave to the farmers of Quebec. I said: Suppose Joe want to borrow \$500. He goes to the bank manager who asks him, "What is your security?" Joe replies, "I can offer you gilt-edged security, something as good as a first-grade bond, and that is my potential hog possibilities in five years, that is, the hogs I shall have by 1937." Then another fellow said, "What should I do to get \$1,000?" I told him that was very easy, that he had only to go to the bank manager and offer him as security his potential hog possibilities in the next ten years. "Oh," he said jokingly, "write it down on paper and I will go to the bank manager and see him about it."

The reason, Mr. Chairman, why the farmers are in difficulties at the present time is because of the low prices of agricultural products. Conditions are so bad that in one township not far from here the farmers owe \$75,000 for tax arrears. Will they be able to pay those tax arrears with potential hog possibilities? I do not know, but it seems rather doubtful. Prosperity was to come back, but as the lady has not yet returned I hope that the government will do something more definite for the relief of the farmer than simply to offer him these potential hog possibilities.