

*The Address—Mr. Vincent*

only one to say so—there will be a shortage of dairy products in a few years. Then, we will be glad to have the necessary surpluses to meet the ever increasing demand.

To come back to the desperate situation of our eastern farmers, it should be pointed out that the aim of a well-to-do farmer is high, because he must be able to enjoy a standard of living and a security comparable to those enjoyed by other classes of society. Unfortunately, that aim has not been achieved by the farmer.

Let us see now what could be done to give new leadership to agriculture in eastern Canada.

1. Intensify and accelerate the work started under ARDA.

2. Provide the farmers with sufficient credit facilities to enable them to set up an economic unit.

3. Stabilize prices through the Agricultural Stabilization Act so that farmers may rationalize their production. Prices should be determined following discussions with the advisory council representing farm organizations.

4. Seek new outlets and at the same time expand the domestic market.

5. The adoption of special measures if necessary. In fact, if everybody recognizes that there can be no rigid agricultural policy because of such factors as the climate, then the government must be ready to face the problems and come up with a flexible policy.

In my opinion, any program of co-ordination and orientation which seeks to improve the future of eastern agriculture should include the five points I have just mentioned.

Allow me to go over those points briefly to tell you what I think of them. I have already had the opportunity of discussing the ARDA program in the house, so I do not intend to repeat what I have said in that respect.

However, such legislation would enable us to show to the farmers not in schools but on their own farms the three points which one must follow to succeed in agriculture. There can be no success without that. In my mind, those three points are like a triangle; a triangle forms a whole figure; when the three angles are there, it is complete.

The first point is the kind of operation a farmer has. It must be a good business. Whether it be for slaughter or for dairy production the cattle must be of a good quality to bring a profit.

The second point is feeding. Our farmers must give their cattle balanced feeds if they wish to make profits.

The third point is control or the organization work. How to organize his farming or his breeding to make a profit from dairying, cattle breeding or from raising hogs or

chickens. If one of these three points is lacking you may be sure that the farmer will not be successful with his farm.

Now, to carry out those three points, government help is necessary, to choose the subject or the farm itself, as farm credit or technical assistance.

To my mind, ARDA should play an important part in the farmer's education in rural areas.

It is true that farmers have to buy western Canadian products to feed their animals and the government must do something. We are asking for a feed grain agency in the east and we have already made a proposal to this end. Such an agency should be set up immediately so as to meet eastern farmers' needs.

Now, the second point I should like to emphasize briefly concerns the ensuring of an adequate form of credit which would enable farmers to set up a profitable unit. A few years ago, the maximum federal loan was set at \$15,000. This amount was increased to \$20,000 and to \$27,500 on third part loans. Such an amount is not adequate any longer; it will have to be increased as farm equipment and the purchase of economic land are always more costly. This ceiling on these loans granted under the Farm Improvement Loans Act which formerly was \$5,000 and was increased to \$7,500 by the Conservative government should be raised. It has to be raised in order to enable farmers to purchase the machinery which is increasingly expensive. Moreover, district offices which are open in many areas of Canada, and especially in our province, where farming advisers have been placed at the disposal of farmers, should be established in greater numbers. There is a great need for more of these advisers who will be able to advise farmers who come to them to inquire about credit facilities for their farms or for the management of their farms. We need more and more people to help farmers. The farmer could go and meet them, just like businessmen meet their bank manager or a technical adviser and ask him how to get organized so as to make more profits, or increase their income and reorganize, in short, to make the farmer better qualified to play his proper role on the farm.

As far as farm credit is concerned, a detailed study should be undertaken in that field, and a number of improvements should be made. As a matter of fact, I am convinced that the present government will follow the example set by its predecessor, doing the best it can and putting its trust in the officials of the Farm Credit Corporation, in order that