

*The Address—Mr. Chaplin*

so that the farmer will get a better return. Among other things this use could include permanent pasture and, when desirable, it could be a community or co-operative pasture. By such use it is hoped that good arable land will be released from pasture and be available for the raising of feed grain in eastern Canada. It is also expected that the expansion of beef cattle production in western Canada will provide an increasing market for western feed grains. This, to me, is a sound program designed to guide farmers and to encourage them into long term profitable production so as to reduce and to try to eliminate certain dairy products surpluses and to get these subsidies off the backs of our taxpayers.

I am glad to note in the speech from the throne that there will be certain changes in the Farm Credit Act which I believe will be helpful in this regard. Also, I feel it would be desirable to have some further degree of liberalization in the Farm Improvement Loans Act. As the situation is now, the time of repayment of a loan is related to the size of the loan itself. In other words, a farmer borrowing say \$7,500 must repay the loan in five years while a farmer borrowing \$1,000 to \$2,000 has only a year or a year and a half in which to repay it. I would think this requirement could work a hardship on a small farmer trying to establish a basic herd of beef cattle. I should think that the time of repayment of the loan should be related to the purpose of the loan. I hope the government will be able to give some consideration to this matter.

There is another aspect of the department which I think is of great interest and importance, namely the extent and the effectiveness of their research. In an attempt to widen the domestic and export market for Canadian foodstuffs great progress has been made in the development of certain processed foods. A good example of this progress is with regard to instant mashed potatoes. These processes are now being extended to other products such as turnips and to combinations of potatoes and meat, potatoes and fish, potatoes and cheese, and potatoes and eggs. The minister has reasoned that if these foods could be prepared in such a way that they could be stored in the hot tropical countries without refrigeration, could be made palatable and nutritious, could be packaged perhaps as a single meal and could be sold at a low price, this accomplishment would be a novel and at the same time realistic and distinctly Canadian approach to the problem of extending our markets and perhaps also in some cases to the problems of surpluses and subsidies. This is exactly what they appear to have accomplished. I say "appear to have

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accomplished" because I have been a manufacturer long enough to know that many items which have bright promise in the development field do not always materialize. In this case, however, matters have advanced to a point where the Canadian food industry, the processors and suppliers have been brought into the picture and an export organization has been set up in order to develop and promote these and other Canadian foodstuffs in the export markets of the world. To me this is a most exciting concept. I think it is perhaps one of the most exciting things happening in agriculture today. This is enterprise, and I believe in enterprise regardless of where it originates. If ultimately this effort is successful, it will expand our markets and will help to keep surpluses down in many of our agricultural products. It is conceivable that it will even help us in meeting our obligations to the emerging nations of Africa and to the old nations of Asia which have always been endemic with starvation and famine.

Mr. Speaker, we have a minister who knows his job thoroughly. He is a man of imagination and he has the ability to turn that imagination to practical purposes. Perhaps, above all, however, this demonstrates the necessity of co-operation between government, suppliers and processors and it points out to us the way of co-operation which we must have in this country if we are to survive under the economic conditions that face us today.

I am glad to note that the speech from the throne gives recognition to the problem of automation in industry, and I should like to make a few remarks concerning the Department of Labour. When one thinks of labour one also thinks in terms of employment. Whereas our employment situation has been bettered very substantially over the last few months, and I believe is now at an all time peak, nevertheless we have in this country a residue of unemployed that is cause for concern to anybody who understands or appreciates the tragedy of a jobless person.

There are three main causes of unemployment in Canada. One of them, of course, is our climate which makes certain types of work difficult in the wintertime and contributes to unemployment on a seasonal basis. Important steps have been taken in this direction and the municipal winter works incentive program for the coming winter has been announced. It seems evident that many municipalities are taking advantage of this program, and the program itself will likely be expanded this year.

That this particular program has been most effective and useful I think goes without saying. The minister is to be congratulated for his vigour and foresight in pursuing this