

present time we have been depending upon selling certain commodities and buying sugar with the exchange obtained. Obviously, if we lose the ability to sell those commodities, then our ability to purchase sugar will be greatly impaired.

There is another difficulty. There is the danger that we might become a burden to Great Britain in the matter of sugar. If there is one thing that Canada should above all else guard against, it is that she should not become a burden on Great Britain. Great Britain has enough troubles of her own to take care of now. In fact, I do not see why we should not equip ourselves to help the mother country so far as sugar is concerned.

All we need to do to make ourselves self-sufficient in regard to sugar is to establish seventeen more sugar factories of 1,200 tons slicing capacity per day. Alberta alone could support seven such factories in addition to the two which are now operated in the province. It takes about 20,000 acres of irrigated land to support a sugar factory of 1,200 tons slicing capacity. Alberta has 200,000 acres under irrigation. Moreover, there is land which could be made available by the application of water, which would support three more factories. This means that Alberta, roughly, could produce one-half of the sugar which the Canadian people as a whole consume. While we may not consider that important to-day, if we should fall into difficulties in the next nine months I think we would wish that those factories were operating in Alberta.

Ontario is able to produce a great deal of sugar. The county of Lambton alone can support four factories of 1,200 tons slicing capacity, and Essex, Middlesex, Huron, Kent and other counties are all excellent for sugar production. In addition to that, there are great possibilities in Manitoba, which are now beginning to be drawn upon. There are also possibilities in Quebec and in the Okanagan valley in British Columbia, as I understand.

In the light of these facts, surely there is not a member of this house who would not be ashamed of himself, and rightly so, if he discovered that his country had got into the position where it was suffering from a sugar famine and realized that by a slight change in policy all this might have been avoided.

It is not only the matter of sugar supply that is important in this connection. I have already pointed out on several occasions that there is hardly any kind of industry which can be developed that would supply more employment than the beet sugar industry. It may not be generally known that one sugar factory of 1,200 tons slicing capacity will

provide work for 10,000 people. Why it is that the government of Canada, realizing the need for employment and the possibilities with regard to employment to be found in the beet sugar industry, have not availed themselves of this outlet, I cannot begin to conceive. It looks like nonsense to me. When we remember that to produce one hundred pounds of beet sugar requires twenty times as much Canadian labour as to produce one hundred pounds of cane sugar, the inadvisability of using cane sugar in preference to beet sugar is patent to all.

How far-reaching this possibility of increased employment is, may be judged by reference to the following figures, which I have from a source which I consider quite authentic. In 1933, production of 45 million pounds of sugar from beets, being about 4.2 per cent of Canadian consumption, required supplies to the following values:

Coal .....	\$ 55,000
Sugar bags.....	100,000
Lime rock.....	20,000
Coke .....	9,000
Soda ash, boxes and other supplies.....	105,000
Freight .....	330,000

While the factory payroll would be \$175,000 and the beet growers themselves would receive \$940,000. When we bear in mind that every single item of that is completely produced and spent in Canada, the absurdity of neglecting such a source of employment is obvious.

In addition to these matters, the possibility of developing live stock production on the farms is great. In my own constituency in the year 1937-38 there were 40,000 sheep and 10,000 head of cattle fed on the pulp, beet tops and betalasses, and the hay resulting from the rotation of crops practised in the beet sugar industry. How great is the value of having the beet tops may be judged from this simple fact, that at topping time the beet tops from a yield of twelve tons to the acre are estimated to be equal in value to two tons of alfalfa hay or 1.3 tons of barley. This is the finding from experiments conducted at the agricultural college at Bozeman, Montana.

This is not a matter to be lightly regarded. It all helps to show how valuable to the Canadian economy is the beet sugar industry, quite apart from the question of the supply of sugar. The railroads derive a great benefit from the beet sugar industry. They gain at least twice as much revenue from beet sugar as from cane sugar. The railroads are called upon to haul the beets to the factory, the coal to the factory, the limestone, coke and other supplies to the factory, the beet pulp out of the factory to the feeders, the beet molasses out of the factory and the cattle to market.