

few acres of land near the large consumption centres. For a number of years the feedmills in Eastern Canada tried to assist the farmers by long-term credits to continue the production of pork and poultry. A careful study of the accounts receivable of a number of feedmills in the Province of Quebec shows that at least 25 per cent is not collectable.

This deplorable situation is another reason why the production of pork and poultry is progressively taken over by the huge flour, feed and abattoir companies, most of them controlled by United States interests under a system called "Vertical Integration". Also a number of feedmills in the country, who previously had sold their balanced rations exclusively to the farmers, are now building more and more their own modern poultry houses, hatcheries, piggeries and even abattoirs, and the feedmill becomes only an integrated part of these lines.

Science never comes to a halt. The shoe cobbler at the beginning of this century was replaced by the shoe factory and the horse was replaced by the automobile so also the production of pork and poultry will gradually expand into factories.

Our Association has always, at all its meetings and through publications, emphasized that if farming should survive it would be necessary that complete unity should be created between East and West and people who represent the co-operative segment of our agricultural economy and those who represent private enterprise. There is no doubt that the permanent threat of some agrarian propagandists, preaching the elimination of free enterprise is also a factor that the large flour mills, as well as country feedmills have accelerated their integration in the meat and poultry production. We are firm believers in the necessity of agricultural co-operatives, so long as they can prove they can give a better service and lower prices to the farmers in their localities. We are very proud that we have a number of efficient co-operatives as members of our Association, who in competition with the private enterprises are quite successful.

There are still a few thousand farmers who followed the progress in animal husbandry and have at least some means to improve their production facilities. Those thousands of farmers need help and can be helped by making funds available to them for the improvement of the soil, for the purpose of good seeds, fertilizers and breeding stock. Grain production in Eastern Canada can no doubt be increased; we have an excellent example in Western Ontario where the production of feed grain tripled in the last few years and the excellent yields in quality and quantity of oats in many areas in the East.

We are happy to see the full prosperity of the Prairie farm life has been achieved, and which is partly due to the large subsidies grain growers have received since the end of world war II.

It is time now that the vision of our Government turns to agriculture in Eastern Canada. Help might be too late for thousands of farms, but many of them have not yet passed the point of no return.

We have read carefully the Submission by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to the Hon. Harry W. Hays and the Hon. René Tremblay. We believe that every one of the thousands of different branches of production and distribution of goods should be properly represented through associations, one of them being the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. However, we believe that the name of Canadian Federation of Agriculture is an over-statement, as this Federation represents only those farm organizations who are exponents of cooperative societies. This segment represents only a small fraction of our Canadian animal husbandry industry.

The statistics of the Department of Agriculture and a list published with the names and the amount of freight subsidies paid to the receivers every year,