

Supply—Agriculture

about the facts, and I believe this will warrant further consideration before the debate is concluded.

I would be very happy if any farming member would stand up and point out where he believes these suggestions recommended by the farmers' union would hurt agriculture and not be of assistance in increasing the income of farmers by increasing the income of the low income labour groups.

The brief went on to say:

A rapid growth in population brings with it a corresponding growth in demand for farm products. We want to point out that on various occasions we have urged the adoption of a large scale, well-planned immigration policy as a necessary premise for an expanding economy. Populationwise, as we have said repeatedly, Canada is an underdeveloped country. This condition, incidentally, is holding back not only the expansion of agriculture, but also of secondary industry.

This is a much more sensible approach than the one presented by the Social Credit party this morning, which sought two things, one regarding diet and the second the printing of more money so that everyone would have more money for more consumption of products. I have not much money and I am probably representative of a large segment of the economy. I consume more food now than I should, and I think that is true of a great number of people. What we need is more people to consume more food, and not have us consume more food. Overeating is one of the problems of the western hemisphere and, Mr. Chairman, if you do not believe it just take a look around the chamber.

With further reference to the discussion this morning it was said we should issue more money and the charge was made that this would not involve planning. I suggest it would, but on the other hand we were accused of planning and it was suggested that in the end it would result in collective farms. The implication, of course, was quite obvious. That was a pretty dishonest statement, because we have collective farms at present introduced by the free enterprise system and not by any desire on the part of planners or on the part of the government. It arises from the very simple expedient of vertical integration. This is corporate ownership, the ownership by large companies wanting to reduce their costs either in the retail field or in the field of disposing of their surplus products such as grain through the feed companies and the money that is put into this.

I am happy to say that this does not work in Russia under one type of system of collective farms, and it does not work very well in Canada under vertical integration. This is something I am very happy about in both cases. We in this party have always been for the family farm. I think the family farm

can produce some very remarkable results for Canada. I would like to be personal about this, Mr. Chairman. I spent part of the last election day at my father's farm. One of his cows, bred and raised by my brother on the family farm under the name of the Norhurst registry, was the first cow of the Holstein type ever to receive the award of excellence in northern Ontario. I am quite proud of this. This cow was not raised on the experimental farm where I was raised and where my father was manager; it was bred on a private farm operated by a family which is proud of the achievements it can make in this field.

I was also very proud to hear of this fact a few weeks ago. I do not wish to say anything detrimental about Prince Edward Island, because that province is well known for the production of potatoes, as are other areas. But my area is not that well known in this field and we have not in the past excelled in this area of production. However, I was very happy to know that at the royal winter fair this fall a farm in my area operated by Mr. and Mrs. Allan Ryan of Charlton was able to take the international reserve championship award with Keswick seed potatoes and won the first prize for table potatoes of two different kinds. They also won second prize in a third variety. I only point this out to the Social Crediters because they may not be aware that certain advantages do come from the family farm, and we have worked very hard to see that this is accomplished.

An hon. Member: We have always supported the family farm.

Mr. Peters: I am not saying that party has not; I am just saying that we object violently to the suggestion that collective farms under the system that may exist in Russia, or the system that exists in Canada under vertical integration, have support from this party, and I hope they have not very much support from any segment of the economy.

My parents were pioneers in the agricultural field in Canada and in a very short period of time we have established a rural economy in northern Ontario of which I am proud. I think it is toward this end that the government should direct its attention. I have always been very pleased with the things the minister has done. I am often surprised to find that they sound better than they have actually been in practice. I have supported these things on many occasions and I have been accused of supporting them more strongly than some of his own members on occasion. But I think they are worth supporting. ARDA is one of them. However, I am disillusioned every time the suggestion is made that the Conservative party has done