

of balance. We used to have a balanced economy, and this country has know prosperity. It is an actual fact, that the years 1942-52 have been recorded as "the most prosperous years ever know in history" to entire nations, not just farmers. Do you know why? Because, from 1942-52, the farmers in the U.S. were guaranteed parity by law (a fair price). The positive economic effect was felt right around the world. Why the U.S. farmers were guaranteed Parity is because of Carl Wilken. How they lost it is the horror story we are living with today.

This is the story.

At the beginning of world war II, Wilken went to congressmen. He warned them that the U.S.A. would go bankrupt and lose the war if they did not have a means of paying for the war. Few believed him. However he did convince the Committee on Banking and Currency that agriculture provided 70% of the new wealth into the economy and that agriculture could finance the costs of that war. And so they drew up what was called the Steagal Amendment which guaranteed farmers Parity. And to ensure that congress wouldn't veto the amendment, they attached it to the National Defense Act. People were led to believe that war brought prosperity, when in reality, it has always been agriculture and the other three basic industries that foster economic prosperity. At the end of the war, industry the world over, converted from military to domestic needs. Everybody prospered. People paid off their debts, very few were borrowing. At that time, the banks were lending only 37½¢ on each dollar of deposits. That's when bankers said, "Look we have to take that fat away from the people. There's too much prosperity. We've got to force people to borrow more money from the bank". And they've done just that. The banks plan was to short change the monetary system. If fair prices to producers of New Wealth brought prosperity to the nation, then the opposite would force a turn down of the economy. Since agriculture provides 70% of the New Wealth into the economy each year, that became the target industry to undermine. In 1953, the bank lobby scuttled the Steagal Amendment. Government switched to a sliding scale, whereby farmers would get only 90% of Parity, the next year 90% of 90%, and down and down each year. Farmers borrowed from the banks to cover lost income. Pretty soon it backed up the whole system until every segment of society was borrowing money. When the plot to scuttle agriculture was set in motion, that created the current situation now known to be "The most debt infested economic situation the world has ever known". We now have a global condition of government debt, business debt, and people debt, all because farmers were denied a fair price for their produce. If you are still puzzled about farm Parity and it's relationship to the economy, if you still wonder what this has to do with the employment and debt, lets take a look at one thing the farmer buys and how it affects others. Lets consider tractors.

In the last 30 years, we have lost 300,000 farmers in Canada. If they had remained in farming, each of them would most likely have bought a