

is making wonderful progress in the west, especially in Alberta in the last ten years, and very rapid progress in Saskatchewan particularly in the last five years. That is a good thing, and I say I am glad to see it. I know it has been advocated up and down this country in the press and by public men generally that the western farmers should go more into mixed farming; I believe it would be in their interests to do so, so that they would not be so much dependent on the grain crop as they are at present. I believe that farming is the great basic industry of this country and that it is deserving of every possible encouragement, not only because of climatic conditions, but because of this further fact, which is often lost sight of: many of our farm products are perishable and must be marketed within a limited time, and because of that fact proper transportation rates and every other possible encouragement should be given to those engaged in farming, particularly in view of the vast amount of money which has been invested in that industry. Climatic conditions are not so favourable to the farmer in this country as they are in Australia and New Zealand. I think the course taken by the government in these treaties was ill-advised and will result in very serious damage to mixed farming in this country; I believe it will discourage it in the west, where it ought to be encouraged. For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, and because my own county is directly and materially interested, I register my protest against these treaties.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

### After Recess

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. H. C. HOCKEN (Toronto West Centre): Owing to an inherited and perhaps unfortunate directness of mind, Mr. Speaker, when I first spoke this session I omitted, much to my regret, the observance of one of the graceful amenities of parliament. I desire now to repair that omission by extending to you my heartiest congratulations upon your re-election as Speaker. Having had the privilege of sitting four years under your direction, I have a full and complete idea of your impartiality, of the dignity with which you maintain the office, and your observance of the best traditions of the speakership under British institutions. I think I may speak for the whole House in saying that it is highly gratifying that you have been able so far to sustain the heavy strain imposed upon you in the absence of the deputy, and in expressing

the sincere hope that that happy state will prevail to the end of this debate.

If, Mr. Speaker, there is any form of the agricultural industry to which the government should pay particular attention it is in my judgment the dairy industry. The men who are engaged in that particular form of agriculture must work every day. The occupation is not a spasmodic one like grain growing; it calls for work early and late, seven days a week, and a constant measure of industry that is more exacting, I think, than that involved in any other branch of farming operations. It is more than that, Sir. The dairying industry is really an agricultural manufacturing concern, because the products of the dairy must go through certain manufacturing processes before they are marketed; and the dairy farmer is akin to the manufacturer in the city, both by the constancy of his employment and by the fact that he must manufacture the raw product which he himself produces.

If my argument is sound, Mr. Speaker, it must appear to be most unfortunate that this particular industry should be jeopardized by any treaty that this government could make. It is the business of a government to deal with and to protect impartially all classes of citizens; and there are some forms of agriculture which it is not easy for a government to protect. The growing of wheat is something that is not easily protected, although I think that might be done in this country now. For instance, an export duty on wheat that is exported in bond to be ground in the United States would react, I think, to the advantage of the farming community in Canada. But here is an industry—dairying—which the government could do a great deal to foster. It can protect these men who work harder than any other people, the men on the farm, from unfair competition either from Australia or from the United States, and in my judgment the argument that is based upon the protection of the dairy industry is just as sound as the argument in regard to any other industry.

I entirely agree with the hon. member for Cariboo (Mr. Fraser) who spoke this afternoon. He said that he wanted an equivalent tariff, an adequate tariff. Well, that was put into another phrase in the last parliament, one that struck me as being very suitable—a phrase used by an hon. member on the other side of the House. The then member for St. Lawrence-St. George argued for what he called a cost of living tariff. He wanted a tariff just high enough to enable the manufacturer of this country to live—not to ex-