

tonight from the hon. member for Drummond-Arthabaska. I also wished to extol the merits of Victoriaville College.

An hon. MEMBER: We shall hear from him later.

(Text):

Mr. J. A. ROSS (Souris): Mr. Speaker, like the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat, I have received many requests and resolutions from my constituents in Manitoba asking me to protest against any increase in freight rates. Some of these people may not realize that this is a matter which is not before parliament, that the matter is before the railway board, but still they protest. The people appearing before that board are fortified with a mass of able legal talent, but should the matter ever become an issue in this House of Commons I can assure all these people that I will advance the strongest arguments I am capable of in opposition to any increase in freight rates at this time. That would add to our cost of production and cost of marketing, a matter which would affect the people of western Canada to a greater degree than those in any other part of this dominion.

I should like to endorse the remarks of the hon. member for Lanark (Mr. Blair) with respect to medical research, and more especially that dealing with cancer. Some 14,000 people died in Canada last year as a result of cancer and this death rate was exceeded only by the deaths from heart ailments. One in every eight deaths is a heavy rate. The King George fund of some \$500,000 was raised by the school children of this country. The medical people have been doing good work with this fund at their disposal. I understand that Ontario is to contribute \$1,000,000 this year for this work. There is a tremendous field open in cancer research to try to find a cure for this terrible scourge. The dominion should assist financially in this matter because it is most important and worth undertaking.

Mention was made also of tuberculosis, from which 5,000 people died in Canada last year. Tuberculosis is the seventh cause of deaths in Canada and is the greatest killer of Canada's younger age group. Here again I should like to associate myself with the hon. member for Lanark, who said that all immigrants coming into this country should receive a thorough medical examination, including chest X-ray and blood tests. We had a glaring example of this when some 2,900 immigrants entered this country from Europe. Just the other day I noticed a report in the paper concerning a Department of

Veterans Affairs hospital in my province, and it was stated that in one of the wings of that hospital there were ninety-eight of those Polish immigrants suffering from tuberculosis. This disease is very contagious and we cannot be too careful about seeing that these people have a thorough medical examination.

Mention was made of tuberculosis and Bang's disease in dairy cattle. When children drink milk from these cattle they may suffer from tuberculosis. I think all milk fed to little children should be pasteurized. Because of these diseases, many states in the great nation to the south will not permit the importation of cattle from Canada unless they are from purebred accredited herds. We have not had an efficient animal health inspection service and an improvement in this regard should be fostered by the Department of Agriculture.

As was pointed out, there is a great lack of hospital facilities in Canada and a great shortage of trained nurses for home and institutional nursing. Greater assistance is needed in this connection and there should be more dominion-provincial cooperation. The dominion government should provide more financial assistance for certain types of medical research and for hospitalization throughout this land.

What I really wish to speak about at this time is a matter that concerns veterans, and I refer particularly to veterans housing. It must be realized that it is only on this debate, on the budget, or possibly on the departmental estimates, that we are likely to be able to discuss these matters. I understand that no committee is to be set up to deal with veterans affairs generally. The committee last year did a good job and brought forth many fine acts, but there is still a great deal of criticism of the administration.

I receive many complaints from young veterans who want to settle on the land. Some of them were taking special agricultural courses last summer. Then a change was made in the regulations and some of these chaps quit their courses. Some of them have relatives who will supply land upon which they could settle and they want to take advantage of the new legislation in order to get a loan with which to buy farm equipment and machinery. They are finding this difficult to obtain because the local officials are turning them down. I hope the departmental officials will be able to straighten this matter out before these men are ready to start their spring operations.

Then there are other chaps who have bought their own land and who are not asking for any