

products and the like. Agricultural production in Canada during 1942 was very high. But increases on a wide range of products is asked during 1943. Some fourteen farm products vary in percentage increases of from 8 to 67.6 per cent. This is a large contribution for agriculture to be asked to make, in view of the present labour shortage and other difficulties now confronting that industry. The importance of a clearer definition of the man-power policy, as it is expected to apply to agriculture, is now most evident to all; and I trust that governmental authorities will work in closer collaboration with organized agriculture.

The report issued by officials of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture while in session at Calgary last Saturday, January 30, to the effect that they had not been consulted about 1943 production, is disappointing. When the grain policy for 1943 was announced last Friday by the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. MacKinnon) it was disappointing to learn that payments of storage of grain within the quota held on farms would not be allowed on the same basis as that paid the elevator companies holding grain for the government of the day. And equally disappointing was it to find that a parity price would not be paid for the quota the government agrees to take from the producers of this country.

In conclusion I would ask the government:

1. To assure the nation that our army as now organized will be properly reinforced when they go into battle and suffer casualties—as they surely must do at some future day. It is most important that the nation should have this assurance now.

2. That a food ministry be established in order that Canada may do her utmost in the production of essential foods for the united nations at this time. This is a matter which may be of vital importance in Canada in the coming season.

3. That parity prices be created immediately for all products and services essential to the war effort and the human family.

4. That industry be decentralized. Plants for the production of alcohol from wheat, plants for the manufacture of synthetic rubber and flax processing plants should be established west of the great lakes, adjacent to the raw materials and the abundance of cheap power which is available in that area.

5. That redistribution of representation in the House of Commons be not dealt with until after the conclusion of the war, because there has been a considerable movement of population in various parts of Canada since war was declared. If necessary the British North America Act should be amended in this

respect. An amendment to that act will be necessary if social security legislation is to function properly.

6. That old-age pensions be increased to \$30 a month.

I shall support, Mr. Speaker, the amendment of the leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) which reads:

We respectfully submit to Your Excellency that this house regrets that Your Excellency's advisers have failed:

- (a) to provide an adequate plan for the effective use of Canada's man- and woman-power;

- (b) to adopt and carry through a national labour policy which will ensure maximum production and give to labour its rightful position as one of the major partners in our Canadian democracy; and

- (c) to provide adequate measures whereby Canadian agriculture can make its maximum war contribution and receive a fair share of the national income.

Mr. A. W. ROEBUCK (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I listened with a great deal of interest to the pungent and eloquent remarks of the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Reid) and I want to join with him in the congratulations which he offered to the government of the day upon the forecast which appears in the throne speech, to which we are speaking at the present time, in regard to security measures.

The hon. member for New Westminster has spoken of the increase in the national income during these years of war. If my memory is right—I am not quoting him but giving my own memory of the figures—the national income of Canada in 1939-40 was four and a half billion dollars. To-day it is somewhere in the neighbourhood of eight billion dollars. In other words, in a time of disorganization and disruption consequent upon a state of war we have practically doubled the income of Canada. I would call the attention of hon. members to the fact that we have done that during a period when we have withdrawn from active production as many as 600,000 of our healthy, young and otherwise producing men by enlisting them in the armed forces. The old statement, "Where shall the money come from; what shall we use for money?" is hardly applicable and can hardly pass as an argument. Were we to maintain the productive power of the Canadian people after the war closes at only the rate at which we are producing now, and producing under difficulties, in factories newly established and worked by men recently trained, it would be possible for us to double the income of every man and woman in Canada—yes, and maintain all the graft and exploitation that goes on as well.