

subsidies until his programme of operation for the year had been decided upon. I suggest to the government of the day that the butter subsidy is less than it should be, and that the government's policy in respect of the subsidy and the requirements should be announced now, early in the year, right now, rather than late in the season, when milk producers find it difficult or impossible to accommodate themselves to what is required of them.

The production of butter cannot be divorced from the need for oils and fats already being pressed upon us by one department of government, and there is nothing more national in character than agriculture, since we are fortunate in having agricultural activities in every province. With feed aplenty and an undiminished cow population, there should be no butter shortage in Canada. The minister may challenge that statement. Some of us imagine, from the gossip we hear, that cows are being killed in great numbers because there is no help on the farms to look after them, no milking machines to milk them, no spare parts for the milking machines, and so on. But I have enough trust and confidence in the Canadian producer to believe that he will find ways and means of getting milk and turning it into butter if we find ways and means of giving him that parity of price, that fair reward for the knowledge and effort which he puts in on the farm to produce butter. We should have some surplus, too, which we can send either directly or through our friends across the line to countries starving for oils and fats.

I come now to another section of the same discussion, and in this connection I wish to pay tribute to one or two of the departments for something they are trying to do. The waste of inedible oils and fats in Canada has been appalling for many years. I am putting some facts on the record for the purpose of encouraging those who are trying to lessen this waste, and in the interests of the national economy. If one will take the time to read *Hansard* of 1936, 1937 and 1938, and particularly the evidence given at the hearing of the tariff board on December 9, 10 and 11, 1936, he will find that our waste of fats and greases amounted to fifty million pounds a year. The salvage department of national war services, and the oils and fats administrator for Canada, Mrs. Phyllis G. Turner, with Mr. Laferle of the national war services organization, have been indefatigable in their efforts to rectify this situation. I would say from observation that they have saved Canada's economy about twenty million pounds a year of what pre-

viously went to waste. The women of Canada and the municipalities are doing a fine job, from both a voluntary and an economic point of view, in saving fats. There is room for great improvement in fat and grease salvage, and I urge all concerned to do everything possible. One hundred pounds of this commodity will produce from ten to thirteen pounds of glycerine. Thirty million pounds extra saved per year will produce three million pounds of glycerine. Three million pounds of glycerine manufactured into explosives could blow the city of Ottawa to smithereens and shake the entire Ottawa valley. I mention that to try and impress even Kingsmere; I see the Prime Minister is getting worried. I make this statement in order to encourage those patriotic women who are voluntarily working to save this material; to encourage the street cleaning departments of our cities and towns and all those who are trying to assist the Department of National War Services in this very necessary work.

We have still another opportunity to increase our production of edible fats. Let the government increase the weight allowed for hogs before they are slaughtered, and make sure that the producer receives the maximum price even if the hogs are heavy, because there is no easier method of manufacturing fat than by means of the hog. The government has gone some distance in this direction by allowing top prices for hogs put on the market at weights greater than obtained before the war. It is freely admitted by those who know anything about the trade that the last twenty pounds are the cheapest and quickest to put on the hog, and this would help out by increasing the consumption of our mixed grains. So that we would be serving two ends: on the one hand we would be feeding our grain, of which we have a large surplus, and on the other we would be producing heavier hogs, thereby increasing the available amount of a by-product of which we are short to the extent of 200,000,000 pounds a year. We depend upon the British market, of course, to consume all our export surplus of hog products, though nowadays I imagine our production is more for export than for home consumption. It is my opinion that the United Kingdom has no appreciable surplus of fats and would not be averse to accepting heavier Wiltshire sides. If we pointed out to the United Kingdom how easy it was for us to add an extra ten pounds before slaughtering a hog for the British market, they might concede a point and allow us to export bacon as a means of shipping an extra supply of mixed grain in the form of heavier fat bacon.