

people who will be liberated in Europe. Even in north Africa to-day, people who have been liberated there are not receiving sufficient food. If Italy were to fold up in this war, there would be 55,000,000 more people to be fed, immediately. Then, we must consider Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria—food must be available with respect to all these countries when our armies start to move in.

Although they may not be interested in what I am saying, I wish my hon. friends in the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation would keep quiet, so that others might listen.

I have said that we need future planning and stock piles. For instance, such commodities as powdered eggs, powdered milk, flour, peas, beans, edible oils and fats of different kinds, dried fruits, dried and desiccated vegetables, canned meats—all these should be accumulated in great quantities as quickly as possible.

There are those who will say that we have not sufficient processing plants. Well, when war started we did not have manufacturing concerns to turn out the munitions of war. However, we have them now, because we built them. We can build processing plants in Canada very rapidly, if we want to. Some will say we have not the storage warehouses in which to store these goods. These, too, may be built very quickly. Some say that these meats, and other commodities, cannot be stored for a period of years. I believe Canadian scientists have enough brains and enough ingenuity to find ways and means of protecting perishable goods in storage.

We must find new methods of shipment and handling of perishable foods, in order that these commodities may be transferred during the war, and rapidly thereafter. I have said that Canada must be the main supplier. Why? Because in Canada we have followed a sane policy of endeavouring to try to keep our population at a fair level. Through our price control and wage control measures we have endeavoured as far as possible to give an even deal throughout the country, and not to let wages and salaries run away and thereby start an inflationary spiral.

Unfortunately the United States of America has not followed quickly enough. We find that in that country many thousands of people are getting high wages in money, but because the commodities they have to buy are rising rapidly in price they will not get much more out of it in the end. They will be paying higher prices and demanding many foods which to-day are not plentiful in the United States. That process has already started. Therefore it

[Mr. J. G. Ross.]

may be that the increase in food production in the United States will be taken up by their own people for some little time.

Then, in Canada we should have a policy in regard to live stock for the time the war is going on, and for the time when it is over.

An hon. MEMBER: Why have you not one now?

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): There is one; but I am talking about a more extensive one. No doubt in many parts of Europe the supply of live stock has decreased considerably. We cannot develop a live stock policy in a year or two years. For instance, the production of dairy cattle cannot be accomplished in much under four years. The same applies to beef cattle. Breeding stock of hogs or sheep can be produced much more rapidly. That condition, however, does not apply to cattle. Therefore I say that money should be made available to the Minister of Agriculture so that a policy may be developed whereby we can produce more and better live stock in Canada, against the day when the war is over and this live stock can be shipped to rehabilitate the herds and flocks of Europe. But help in that regard must come to the farmers throughout this country.

I do not intend speaking beyond eleven o'clock this evening. I had intended only to point out that Canada is one of the united nations in a position to accumulate large supplies of foodstuffs of all kinds and classes. They can be produced by farmers from one end of Canada to the other. Our policy should be such that not one available acre of cultivated land should be left unproductive while the war is in progress, from now on. Every acre should be used to produce as much as possible. I do not say that high prices should be paid by the government for those commodities that are to be put into storage, but I say that fair prices should be paid to all producers in agriculture. I will admit that this may mean the financing to a very considerable extent by the government of such a programme for one, two or three years. Let us take a look at what has been done in the past. Last year we financed, to the extent of a billion dollars, goods which were sent to our allies. This afternoon the Minister of Finance spoke of some amount of money to be spent this year in order to see to it that the united nations may be able to obtain their supplies from us. Well, I do not know what the government spent last year on agricultural products to be turned over to the united nations, but I venture to say that it was not over ten per cent of the