

the province of Ontario. Is this a general feeling through the north, that the province of Ontario has misused that part of Ontario for their own advantage?

Mr. CRAM: Do the people of Labrador not feel that they are also neglected at times? This is a natural thing. No doubt Mr. Chatwood feels they are very well serviced. Because they are closer to Winnipeg they feel they can communicate with Winnipeg quite readily whereas they think they are forgotten children in other places, but I do not think that is altogether true.

Mr. WHELAN: I think every person who spoke as a witness before the committee today has pointed out that in 1867 they decided to build railroads in order to really build our country. But one of the things as a federal member I find today that I do not think the federal members in 1867 were confronted with is provinces trying to build empires of their own, and perhaps even countries of their own, and getting offended every time we as federal parliamentarians try to do anything that is beneficial. Ho, ho, stay out of our area—

Mr. CRAM: Do you believe they did not have that problem in 1867?

Mr. WHELAN: No, not like they do today.

Mr. CRAM: Upper and Lower Canada and the Maritimes?

Mr. WHELAN: Oh yes, I know they had problems.

Mr. DELVILLANO: I would like to answer your question by saying that we are neglected, yes, and we can prove it to you through people who are involved.

Mr. WHELAN: I have one question on agriculture, and this will be the last one. I am Chairman of the Agriculture Committee and, of course, I have read a lot about the north but I have never visited the agricultural area there. I think there is a potential for further development of agriculture there. Have you any ideas or programs that you could suggest to us that would develop the agriculture industry there?

Mr. KILGOUR: I think this is very vital. I think it is one of the base industries that we do not develop properly, and yet we have the greater clay belt and the lesser clay belt in northern Ontario and northwestern Quebec, which is probably equal to all the tilled area south of Winnipeg in Manitoba. Presently we have programs which are sponsored by different organizations in order to take better advantage of the ARDA program. I think the Ontario government in its last throne speech mentioned that they are going to again investigate the financing of small farms and take another look at it. Perhaps not especially small farms, but farm development and farm financing, realizing that the small unit may no longer be applicable and we have to work on 1,000 acres.

Mr. WHELAN: You are also aware that Ontario has taken the least advantage of practically any province of ARDA? We cannot force ARDA on them.

Mr. KILGOUR: This is right, and I would like to say that a lot of organizations as well as our own are pressing for better utilization of the ARDA program.

Mr. WHELAN: This is my last question. Speaking as Chairman of the Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development Committee, would your organization be interested if we decided to arrange a program to visit the northland and study it as a federal group?

The CHAIRMAN: Are you speaking on agriculture, Mr. Whelan?

Mr. WHELAN: I am speaking of developing the northland in a proper fashion and informing the members of our committee, whom I find do not know enough about Canada and should know more about this part of Canada.