

nessed many sales by auction. We shall now see bankruptcies. And, on the best run farms, which bring 80 cents per hour to the operator, people will face a salary reduction. And is it absolutely sure that this salary reduction is what the just society is all about, that just society Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) wanted to bring about?

Mr. Speaker, whereas the most prosperous farms in Quebec and Ontario yield only 80 cents per hour to their operators, do we realize the situation, since, according to the Liberal government and the experts that were aiming at a just society, a wage of 80 cents per hour was already too much? In fact, were not all possible means taken to reduce that wage?

In my opinion, this cannot last any longer. How shall we know whether the government, through the Farm Credit Corporation has not enough securities in Quebec to take over all the lands? Does the government want all the farms to be brought under the control of the State and the farmers to become mere public servants? We recall the Prime Minister once expressed admiration for the communist theories and we wonder whether the hopeless indebtedness of the farmers is not part of the Prime Minister's plans? Is the government contemplating, through the Department of Agriculture, to take over these farms and to convert them into collective farms? Do they want the farmers to be turned into public servants?

● (9:30 p.m.)

Is there any better way of frustrating an honest man who earns only 80 cents per hour than to bring his income down? Our farmers are in debt or compelled to get into debt while even better means are available. Will this not end, in the long run, by a quiet seizure of our lands? How many farms will be in the hands of the State within two or three years? I would like the minister to answer this and I am still wondering whether the province of Quebec will not be the first to fall into the hands of the government.

There is an article in the March 1970 issue of *Le Meunier Québécois* from which we may gather how anxious the people are. Here is an excerpt of this article and I quote:

Mr. Otto Lang, Minister without Portfolio of the Canadian government who is responsible for the wheat policy, has just tabled in the house the emergency plan to solve the enormous wheat surplus problem in western Canada.

The plan, which will be in force for one year, will cost the pretty amount of \$100,000,000—

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Quebec millers are somewhat apprehensive of that wheat policy from the federal government. If the Canadian Wheat Board keeps the control over the sales of wheat, barley and oats that will be produced in western Canada, how much will it cost to the grain merchants in Quebec, who cannot get their supply on the world market?

Moreover, the federal Minister of Agriculture, Mr. H. A. Olson, stated in the House that the subsidy of \$20,000,000 on wheat transport granted to eastern farmers, out of the 1969 budget, will be reduced to \$17,500,000 from April 1st 1970.

While the western farmers are privileged, for they can convert their grain into livestock products and besides get compensated for sowing it, we, millers from Quebec, protest against the federal policy which clearly discriminates against the eastern cattle producers, who will finally and definitely have to foot the bill.

Mr. Speaker, we never saw such blatant injustice and they could not have found anything better to force people off the land.

And if you refer to the last report of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion for the year 1968-69, you can read the following:

The Regional Development Agency has paved the way in the field of industrial development subsidies—

If we refer now to table 1, on page 19 of the French version of that report, we see the following statistics concerning Quebec:

\$800,110,000 were spent on capital investments, to create 16,934 new jobs, that is \$47,249 per job.

Instead of going out after the farmers, out in the sticks, to bring them to the city, would it not have been better to pay them a subsidy of \$1,000 a year? They would then have stayed 47 years longer on their farms, hoping to live a bit more decently.

How unfortunate that in times of peace the government does not try to apply a formula to encourage the fulfillment of the human being. Indeed, two great ideologies govern the world: that of domination and that of freedom. Any ideology that strives to establish the sovereignty of one man, one dictator, one league, one State, one trust or one political party is one of domination. On the other hand, if it strives to give the people easier access to benefits, it becomes a policy of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, while maintaining the right to make representations later on for the working class that the farmers constitute, I take it upon myself to call for a bit of justice, precisely under bill C-197. I claim that part to which those people are entitled, quite freely. That is why I shall vote against Bill C-197.