

strong stand here with regard to agriculture, because I regard it as a barometer of the progress, success and prosperity of Canada; and it should have all the help this house can give it, if it is a long-range policy and not a half-baked one like this.

First of all, however, we should look into the policies of hon. gentlemen opposite. They have never had a grain policy. They have been everything by fits and starts, and nothing long. In the words of the Prime Minister the other day, "you pay your money and take your choice," though that should be changed to: "You pay anyway, and you have no choice." The poor man on the prairies who grows the grain, the dirt farmer, has been done out of millions and millions of dollars by the middlemen on the prairies, the elevator ring, all the other rings, and the Winnipeg grain exchange, the greatest enemy the grain growers of the west ever had, centred in the city of Winnipeg, dealing in futures and all that sort of thing. No one in this house will complain about giving proper help to the grain growers of the prairies, I am sure, if it is a cure, or help.

The first session I was in this house, in 1922, the Canadian council of agriculture came here and opposed protection for this industry when those on this side were contending that it was not a north and south industry, as hon. gentlemen opposite said; that it was not a free trade industry with the United States, but an east and west industry, an overseas industry to Britain, France, Italy, and the markets of the world. But these gentlemen came here and opposed any protection. They are here again to-day, but they have turned a complete about-face. From 1920 on, the Canadian council of agriculture came here and said that protection was an unmitigated evil and a robber system, in the brief they then presented; that it had been the root of all the trouble that existed on the prairies. Now they have been proved wrong, and they are here to get \$35,000,000 this year, or any advanced form of protection they can secure. This bill is an advanced form of protection; it provides bonuses, subventions and subsidies all along the line, with the other aids added of other years. It pays people for doing nothing.

We have never had a proper grain policy, and we never shall have a proper national policy as long as hon. gentlemen opposite are in office. Some three or four years ago not being one of those who were Geneva-minded, and seeing this war coming, I urged that we should get our carryover out of the country. I suggested the establishment of food and grain reservoirs in Great Britain.

[Mr. Church.]

Five years ago it was stated by the British medical association, meeting in the city of London, that our Canadian hard wheat was the finest grain in the world, and that with up-to-date methods it could be stored and kept in good condition for ten years. My suggestion was endorsed by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle who has impressed me as knowing more than any man I ever heard about the grain growing industry in all its phases. If my suggestion had been adopted and these reservoirs had been established, we would have cleaned out the elevators and the various carryovers, and the grain would have been over in the old country. To-day, however, because of lack of shipping, elevator and storage space and the glut in the war market, we do not know where we are, and do not know what it will cost or whither it is to lead us, and it is not a national but a local policy.

We are now going into this policy of protection all along the line, with bonuses, subventions and subsidies, and new ones added every session. That policy has been expanded in the last few years. We have now many forms of protection, and this year we have an item in the supplementary estimates for \$35,000,000. This is not a long-range policy. I think it was last year that I urged the minister to have a conference with the Hon. H. A. Wallace, then secretary of agriculture in the United States, as to the orderly marketing of wheat in war time and a united action.

Progress reported.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

Tuesday, April 8, 1941.

The house met at three o'clock.

STANDING ORDERS

CONCURRENCE IN SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. W. H. GOLDING (Huron-Perth) presented the second report of the standing committee on standing orders, and moved that the report be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

THE WAR

SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY—WITHDRAWAL OF HUNGARIAN CONSULATES

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on March 5 I made a brief statement on the situation in the Balkans as it affected citizens of certain of the Balkan countries. Upon instructions