

rib roasts at \$1.59, and rib steaks at \$1.79 a pound. And we wonder what is wrong with our agriculture industry!

I will now deal with the Farm Credit Corporation. Not too long ago I went to the Minister of Agriculture regarding the case of a farmer who had gone bankrupt and was forced to sell. He had an 8 per cent mortgage. Three entrepreneurs came out. If they were connected with agriculture, it was very remotely at that time. They bought the farm and assumed the 8 per cent mortgage, the preferred farm credit rate of interest. It was a very good investment. This was brought to my attention and I confirmed it to the Farm Credit Corporation. It was true, and the minister said he would take steps to correct it. I honestly think he will. I have no reason to believe he will not. Probably he has taken care of it already.

● (1650)

I believe some of our Farm Credit Corporation people have too negative an attitude. When many of our young people try to buy a farm close to the family farm, which they need today to stay in production, they can get no positive response and are turned away. I suggest that the ones I have had experience with are very legitimate cases. Yet a chap or group not connected with agriculture can buy a farm or farms from underneath these young people, who I think have a right to wonder why.

The small business development bond is still denied our farmers. Our farmers are very capable business people and should not be denied the opportunity to take advantage of the small business development bond. I am not saying that is the answer to everything, but it would be a big help. I am asking why the Minister of Agriculture cannot get the farm community included under the provisions of the small business development bond program when he can go down to the Chrysler Corporation in Windsor with the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gray) with huge grants. We have an agricultural industry we are so proud of but which is being depressed and set aside.

I am sorry the minister is not here as I would like to speak a little bit about him. I can assure Your Honour that I will be very kind, but I will be very honest. I have known the minister for some time, even before he was a cabinet minister. In the first election when he was the Minister of Agriculture I had more opposition from the present Minister of Agriculture than I did from the Liberal candidate in the riding, because people thought he was going to be the minister who understood the agricultural industry in Canada and was really going to help the farmers. The Liberal candidate who ran against me three times was rewarded with his Valhalla last week when he was appointed a judge.

**An hon. Member:** What else is new?

**Mr. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton):** Yes, and that is just part of it.

This is not true today of the Minister of Agriculture. They think of him as a very kindly gentleman, but they do not think he is getting his fair share or is speaking up for them. This was

### *Agriculture*

true to some extent in the last election, but it is very evident today that he has not fulfilled the dreams and wishes of the agricultural community in Canada. Probably he should rethink his approach to the agricultural industry.

I am not a farmer to any great extent, but I am proud to be associated with agriculture in a small way. I would hate to have somebody come along to me at some future date and say, "You can have so many cows, probably as many as you have now, but you can have no more". I do not say the minister's idea of marketing boards is all right. As far as possible we should have orderly marketing. But I think we will have to promote an educational system, and I am talking about the cattle industry.

Let me say something else to the minister. It is my prediction that we will see a great change in the red beef industry in Canada. When we can grow cash crops we will not be able to afford to have cattle on our prime lands. Our cattle will have to be raised on our less expensive agricultural lands. I know of many feedlots in Ontario that have been closed down. You can see them from the air, you can see many of them from the road, and I will name some of them. Probably some of these are in the riding of the hon. member for Kent (Mr. Bossy).

A very good friend of mine was chosen the agriculturalist of the year not too long ago in his home town by the Rotary Club, and I think the hon. member for Kent was there at the time. This man was in the cattle business but is out of it now. He was in the hog business but he has gone out of that too. It was not through poor management that Crawford Langstaff went out of those businesses. He went out of business because there was more in cash crops. It is true that he was sitting on some choice land. This is something that will have great influence on the way our agricultural industry will go, but it is something we must be prepared to live with and plan for.

The Minister of Agriculture said that we never imported eggs and we never imported broilers, and that we were the envy of many other agricultural countries of the world regarding our agricultural industry. We do not argue with that at all. However, I can remember not too long ago when we imported eggs. I can remember not too long ago when we imported broilers, and we still do. We import turkeys and we rent hens. If we want hens we go out and rent them to lay eggs. I know one chap who invited me into his egg farm. He had 19,000 laying hens and he did not own one. He rented them from a company. Who controls some of these industries? This chap was renting these hens from a company. I am sorry to say this guy is not in business today, but that is an example of some of the things that go on in the agricultural world.

When the minister said we were the envy of so many countries in regard to agriculture, I think probably this is the result of God's grace in nature, and because our agricultural people are farmers. That is probably the reason, more so than because of good government management. I do not think we can take credit for the fact that we have bounteous agricultural areas and the way they produce. We luckily are situated geographically—