

lishments, the future returns of which can be mortgaged. That is one difficulty in classifying farm lands. In the provinces down by the sea the owner or occupant of lands may carry on lumbering in the winter and fishing in the summer. The farm may be of small acreage; it is his home, he grows all his vegetables and sows a few acres in oats or barley so that he may feed his horses, cattle and pigs. He is classified for this purpose as a farmer, because he is essentially a farmer in the sense in which that term has been used for census purposes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Do the figures relating to average farms owned mean the average number of actual farms or the average percentage of the acreage of all farm land?

Mr. BENNETT: I tried to explain that the figures I gave showed the percentage of farm lands as such rather than the number of farms. The census return shows the percentage of farm lands owned and rented in Canada, by provinces. Obviously it would not give the numbers of farms, because you would arrive at an entirely different percentage, especially in western Canada.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): The Prime Minister has stated that the farms throughout Canada are mortgaged to the extent of about \$726,000,000. Has he in his memorandum a figure showing the total valuation of Canadian farms?

Mr. BENNETT: I can give that information to the hon. member for St. Henri (Mr. Mercier) before I conclude. Perhaps, properly speaking, this subject may have some reference to the next resolution, but if the house will permit I will give the information now. The hon. member for St. Henri has asked what, according to the census return—which I desire the chamber to keep in mind covers 77 per cent of the land, the other 23 per cent being rented—the mortgage debt on all the owned farms in Canada amounts to. In Prince Edward Island it amounted to \$4,866,700; in Nova Scotia it was \$6,570,000; in New Brunswick, \$6,485,400; in Quebec, \$96,409,400; in Ontario, \$199,755,100, in Manitoba, \$59,223,400; in Saskatchewan, \$175,770,300; in Alberta, \$107,519,000; and in British Columbia, \$15,177,200, making a total of \$671,776,500 covering a total farm acreage which, as I said a moment ago, amounted to 163,254,959, or an indebtedness per acre of \$4.11.

To many of the members of this committee these figures are familiar owing to what transpired in the special economic committee which sat last year. It, may be tiresome to them—at least to some of them—and unless the house desires I shall try not to burden the record too much by going into detail. I have before me another table, giving the history of the indebtedness per acre of the total owned land in the country. Table 4 may be placed on Hansard. The average is \$5.34.

Mortgage Indebtedness per Acre of the Total Owned Land
(Census, 1931)

Prince Edward Island.. . . .	\$ 4,866,700	\$ 1,151,386	\$ 4 24
Nova Scotia.. . . .	6,570,000	4,164,170	1 58
New Brunswick.. . . .	6,485,400	3,979,408	1 63
Quebec.. . . .	96,409,400	16,612,589	5 80
Ontario.. . . .	199,755,100	19,882,769	10 05
Manitoba.. . . .	59,223,400	10,917,126	5 42
Saskatchewan.. . . .	175,770,300	39,226,472	4 48
Alberta.. . . .	107,519,000	26,920,603	3 09
British Columbia.. . . .	15,177,200	2,829,247	5 36
Canada.. . . .	\$671,776,500	\$125,683,770	\$ 5 34

Mr. BEAUBIEN: Has the Prime Minister any information regarding mortgages on chattels?

Mr. BENNETT: No, I have not at the moment. I said a moment ago that that information is exceedingly difficult to obtain, and in answer to a question asked me a minute ago I should say that in the province of Quebec the figures were very large. It must be remembered that in the appropriate registry offices there are deposited trust deeds of corporations. Heavy mortgages, trust mort-

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gages, covering issues of securities have been lodged, and when the figures were given by my hon. friend I could not but think that they included the trust mortgages of the various corporations, because otherwise they are at variance with the statement issued by the census enumerators.

Here is a table which I believe may interest the committee. It is a table to show the ratio of the mortgage debt to the total value of the farm property, and is given according to census figures of 1931. In the