

ment of our vacant arable land? What has the Government done to enable those already on the land to bring it to a profitable producing stage? What steps have the Government taken to prevent the annual outlay of from 20 to 25 millions of dollars for food stuffs which could, and should be grown in our own Province?

The answer must be a negative answer, except perhaps, that the Government at its last session did bring in a bill entitled "The Agricultural Credits Act," founded on the "New Zealand Act." That Act has been brought into force at the present session—some \$2,000,000 borrowed, which will cost the farmers about 7 per cent. The McBride Government, after long years of waiting, appointed a Commission to ascertain and report on the best methods to help the farmer. That Commission made its report in 1914. It strongly endorsed and recommended the "New Zealand, Act." That Commission cost the country over \$48,000.

If the provisions of that Act had been in force eight or ten years ago, when money was cheap, our valley lands would have been producing double the value now being produced; a happy and contented population would be in occupation of the many abandoned homesteads throughout the country; the farming community would have been able to pay for their homes from the products of the soil. The necessity was just as great then, as now, for the application of the Act, with its provisions for cheap loans on long term payments. Premier Bowser has been virtually in control of the legislature for years, and if Mr. Ross, or Mr. Campbell, or Mr. Taylor, or Mr. Manson, now comprising the Cabinet, had any business knoweldge or cared a rap for the farming community, they could, have, years ago, brought in and advocated the placing on the Statutes such an Act: the Government could have obtained capital at a low rate and thereby have shown to the people that a sincere step was being taken in their interests.

In what correspondence school have these Ministers qualified as "business" men, that the Premier is now able to announce to the world that the Bowser Government will be henceforth a "business Govern-