

Agricultural Products Act

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Golding): Has the hon. member unanimous consent to place this table on *Hansard*.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Lesage: We have no Rosedale on this side of the house.

Mr. Charlton: The table is as follows:

Comparative Prices of United Kingdom Imports of Foodstuffs from Canada and all Other Countries
(Per hundredweight)

Commodity	1938	Year 1947	1948
Wheat			
From Canada	\$ 1.56	\$ 3.96	\$ 4.09
From other countries..	1.51	6.33	6.25
Wheat flour			
From Canada	2.30	5.73	5.68
From other countries..	1.89	7.35	8.75
Bacon			
From Canada	17.43	31.90	40.52
From other countries..	18.30	32.44	45.83
Cheese			
From Canada	13.83	30.36	35.09
From other countries..	13.17	33.51	35.10
Eggs, shell			
From Canada	20.43	41.54	47.46
From other countries..	12.43	38.65	48.16
Condensed Milk			
From Canada	8.14	14.79	15.05
From other countries..	7.56	15.60	14.79
Casings			
From Canada	46.80	108.81	129.41
From other countries..	49.31	143.63	184.20
Apples			
From Canada	3.24	9.77	
From other countries..	3.57	8.72	10.40
Tomatoes			
From Canada	4.28	9.76	
From other countries..	4.42	17.42	16.12
Salmon			
From Canada	17.40	31.64	41.23
From other countries..	15.54	44.46	47.70

Mr. Charlton: As I said, there is only one product for which Britain paid Canada more than she paid other countries; that was condensed milk.

Mr. Gardiner: She pays Australia 24 cents for cheese.

Mr. Charlton: Well, it is not on that list, which comes from an official government publication.

Mr. Gardiner: This is the list received from the British authorities.

Mr. Charlton: You had better put that on *Hansard*, or have the Minister of Trade and Commerce put it in his publication. The minister and the government have the power in their own hands to fill these contracts. What are they waiting for? The government of the United Kingdom is socialist, and whether we like it or not we have to deal with them on that basis. It will have to be a strictly business basis, as the Minister of Agriculture must realize by now.

The communists will endeavour by fair means or foul to break the economy of the democratic nations. Countries behind the iron curtain are now offering food on the various world markets. Let us not forget that this food is produced by slave labour and could be offered at prices which would seriously demoralize the producers of this and all the other democratic nations of the world. Here I would quote from another article appearing in the *Globe and Mail* of February 16, headed "Thousands die as slaves, says AFL" which goes on to say—I am just going to quote part of this article which is headed "Russian Labour Camps Hell; UN Told." It reads as follows:

One of the most graphic descriptions was contained in a statement by Julius Margolin, Polish author, who now lives in Israel.

Margolin estimated that a minimum of 10,000,000 persons were in Russian concentration camps inside the Soviet Union. He said deaths in these camps ran into hundreds of thousands every year.

"We may assume that in these camps of the USSR, from the time they were established, no fewer died than were killed by Hitler in his extermination camps," Margolin said.

He said life in the Russian camps was an indescribable hell reminiscent of Maxim Gorki's book, *The Lower Depth*, which pictures 100 prisoners living in one room.

"Persons who knew Polish prisons and the German Dachau of the year 1937 remembered them in the Soviet camps as a comparative 'paradise,'" he said.

We must have a good part of the British market or another market comparable to it. It is the responsibility of this government to clear away the obstacles, not hurdle or side-step them. This government should face the issue squarely and find some suitable solution. If this is not done, then Great Britain, being a trading nation, will naturally buy where she can sell. If we are not prepared to buy then we certainly cannot expect to sell. This government is responsible for the mess in which our farmers find themselves today. It is this government's responsibility—

Mr. Grant: This is ridiculous.

Mr. Charlton: It is not so ridiculous to the people who are dependent on farms to make a living. I say to this government, do not try to blame somebody else for your errors. Do something, and do it before it is too late.

Mr. P. E. Wright (Melfort): Mr. Speaker, I have listened for the last three weeks to this argument about the constitution and just what should be done with our bureaucrats and these other terrible people we have in Canada running our civil service. As related to this particular bill which is before the house today, this constitutional question is even more amusing than when raised on some of the other measures. This is especially so in view of the fact that in 1934 the Conservative party introduced a national agricultural