

lar myself; in fact, the present plan looks to me like my plan of last year in a dress suit. What I proposed last year when agriculture was confronting the greatest crisis in her experience was a straight bonus on mixed farm products, to be administered by a board so that none but the high-grade products would receive the bonus, and the bonus would be automatically eliminated when prices increased in order to encourage regularity of supply. But the plan proposed by the Minister of Finance is even better. At present pound sterling value low, and with hogs at three cents, as they were last year, it means that we would receive 35 cents a hundred; if hogs go to six cents, we shall receive 70 cents, and so on. So the future looks brighter than the present. This is the first attempt in the last quarter of a century that any government in this country has made to improve the price of farm products. I would urge upon hon. gentlemen opposite who represent rural constituencies throughout this dominion, when they go back home and speak in the little red schoolhouse against the duty on sugar and how they voted against it, to tell the farmers also that this agricultural stabilization fund will mean more money to the farmers of this country than all they will have to pay for the sugar, taxes included, that they consume throughout the year. But I am very glad that some hon. gentlemen opposite have taken the attitude they have in regard to this agricultural stabilization fund because it means that there will be very many more Liberal constituencies vacated at the next election.

Any hon. member who represents a farming constituency or knows anything at all about farming knows what advantage this agricultural stabilization fund will be to the farmers of this country. I have heard lawyers, industrialists, doctors and other professional men, all asking how this is going to help the farmer. I have even heard hon. gentlemen on the other side of the house who are farmers themselves asking the same question, but every hon. member who knows anything about agriculture knows what a great influence the price we receive for our surplus farm products abroad has on the domestic price. All you have to do is to look at the market reports since the budget was brought down to see that this is so. I say further that there is not a farmer in this house who will dare rise and say that it will not affect the domestic price of farm products. Every fisherman, every poultry raiser, every cheese maker, every cattle raiser and every hog producer in this dominion will receive material benefit from this fund.

Mr. DUFF: Did you say every fisherman?
[Mr. Rowe.]

Mr. ROWE: Every fisherman who exports—

Mr. DUFF: You don't know what you are talking about.

Mr. ROWE: It is applicable in the same way to the fisherman who exports his products. I have spent as much time in agriculture as the hon. member has in the fishing industry—

Mr. DUFF: Leave fishing alone.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has no right to interrupt the hon. member who has the floor, particularly in that way.

Mr. DUFF: Stick to agriculture.

Mr. ROWE: I hope that when my hon. friend goes to the agricultural sections of his riding which I have visited he will tell the farmers there that he voted against the agricultural stabilization fund. I have figured just what it will mean on the sale, say, of a small load of hogs. It will mean more on a load of a dozen hogs to the farmers of this country than the farmer pays, including the sugar tax, for all the sugar that he and his wife and family uses during the year. It will be of similar benefit to the cattle raiser; it will be of similar benefit to the poultry producer and to the cheese maker, and I leave it to the hon. member for Antigonish-Guysborough (Mr. Duff) to apologize for any harm he thinks it will do to the fishermen of this dominion.

We have on the horizon the possibility of new outlets for our products. I have explained briefly what Britain buys from world production. I have mentioned the 800,000 head of cattle imported into the old land from the Irish Free State, and in view of the rather difficult imperial relationships at present existing between Ireland and Great Britain and the tariff which has been placed against Irish cattle entering the British market, there are new opportunities for the Canadian producer.

We know that we have improved our position in the British market with respect to chilled beef. Argentine's exports of chilled beef to the British market have fallen off by 25 per cent in the last three years, while Canada's exports have increased from 4,000 quarters to 19,000. Hon. gentlemen opposite may shake their heads and say that that is not a large amount of beef. True, but it is sufficient to demonstrate the possibilities that lie ahead for this dominion, particularly with the ever-increasing speed of the great transportation lines crossing the Atlantic.

When I hear hon. gentlemen opposite criticizing the Imperial conference agreements, I should like to know what market they hope to get for our surplus products, or do they