

foundation of a good herd; but the feed was eaten up by the rest of the stock that could not be sold, and we had an early snow, so when the strike ended these breeding cattle had to be allowed to go along with the others. That was the bitterest part of the whole situation.

It seemed as if the strike had been a scheme deliberately planned for just that time in order that the packers might buy cattle for three or four cents less per pound, which is what they did after the strike was over. The stockyards filled up, and buyers would walk away and leave the cattle there for weeks on end. An embargo was placed on the Winnipeg yard on two different occasions. The honourable senator from Prince Albert (Hon. Mr. Stevenson) knows what conditions were like. On one day 67 cars of cattle came in to Prince Albert on one line of railway alone out of the eight lines that bring cattle into the yards there. Besides that there were hundreds of trucks coming in. I was told of rioting and fighting for position by men trying to get a chance to unload cattle at the Burns Packing Company's yard, regardless of price. But although the price on the American market was three times as high as our producers could get, there was no government representative on hand to see that the men got fair play, or even to prevent rioting. The farmers would not have needed to sell their best animals at all if they had been able to get rid of a few fat cattle.

When we were notified that parliament was going to open early in December, I thought that one of the things to be discussed would be the possibility of securing more American dollars. Well, we might have had \$200 million of American money for our western cattle if we had been allowed to ship them to the United States this fall. And had the American market been opened in time to allow the farmers to save their breeding stock, the country would have been better off by another \$100 million. But now the producers are discouraged, and the calf crop for next year is depleted. This will result in a further great national loss.

As far as the hog market is concerned, western Canada has been taking a loss there as well as on wheat. All along we have been losing three or four cents on hogs, and yet we have been subsidizing eastern Canada by paying freight rates down here. I recall the late Senator Burns, in the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, asking if anybody had ever heard of such nonsense.

It is common knowledge in western Canada that it does not pay a man to haul his grain any distance to the railway. It is more eco-

nomical for him to feed it to livestock on the farm. The policy of the present government, however, seems to require us to ship our grain, and it does not permit us to feed it to the pigs. In spite of Canada's economic position, an effort is being made to complete agreements with Great Britain, in order to secure a market. My contention is that we have not got enough pork left in Canada to feed ourselves. I have heard of the young pigs being killed and thrown away in eastern Canada, and I know that was done in the West.

I do not know what sort of thinking was behind the method of removing the subsidies, but it would seem to me that the authorities were trying to make water run uphill. That absurdity applies to a lot of these trade agreements. I recall the agreements we made in western Canada respecting the price of land. The scheme figured out all right on paper, but it did not materialize because it was impossible for the purchaser to make his payments. With respect to all the agreements that may be made with other countries, there is a strong possibility that they will not materialize.

I read recently some of the letters of Thomas Jefferson, a former President of the United States. In one letter he spoke of a man who was running for the office of president; he said he was a most unfit candidate, because every time he rose to speak in Congress he became so angry that he could not talk. That was a warning to me, because I am liable to fall into the same error. I was interested to read that Thomas Jefferson had not much use for lawyers.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: He believed they confused every issue. In his opinion the farmers were the real democrats, and the backbone of the country.

Whenever reference is made to the conditions in western Canada today, someone volunteers the remark that the people there are better off than they have been in forty years. The greater part of that country has been settled since I went there without anything. Surely my friends will admit that a man is entitled to something for forty-two years of slaving. We must remember the way most of the westerners have lived—in shacks, catching a few hours sleep whenever they could, grabbing a bite to eat and returning to work. Surely after four decades, living under such conditions, they are entitled to advance, and to build homes.