

I shall say nothing further with regard to the markets we have lost. I think we have all kept pretty closely to the issue before the chair; but I submit that the production of better live stock and better cattle is at the very basis of our production of a more uniform and higher standard of beef as well as dairy products. There has been more progress made in the last year or two, especially in Ontario, and in western Canada, I believe, in the improvement of dairy herds by the advanced registry for dairy sires. While considerable progress has been made in that direction, I would strongly urge the government to reconsider its whole bull loaning policy and reinstating in its place a policy of assistance which can be generally applied, and from which therefore we can expect more general benefits, assisting not only in the production of better live stock throughout the dominion but in accomplishing the several other purposes I have mentioned.

Mr. HAYHURST: I should like to concur in some of the remarks made by the hon. member for Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Rowe). From observations I have made in different parts of the country I know that beef clubs which have been established in the past have done good work, but difficulty has arisen in this way: The farmers in certain areas would sometimes get discouraged, and then we found that the original policy was not carried forward. A club would sometimes start with a shorthorn sire, for example, and probably a few years later turn to an Aberdeen-Angus, then to a Hereford, and perhaps wind up with an Ayrshire or something of that kind, and then we would have a mixture and the scrubbiest of scrubs left, although the club might have started with the finest of intentions. The farmers in certain areas do not seem to realize that something should be done in the direction of the line breeding of cattle, and this applies to all animals. I have had considerable experience in these matters because I have been secretary of different farm clubs, which have had at different times sires of different breeds. This applies to both horses and cattle. The club may have started out with percheron horses or a shorthorn bull; yet years afterwards we have seen all the good work which had been started in that way spoiled by the introduction of another breed of animal entirely, and the countryside would be littered with breeds of animals entirely different from the type with which the club started. Thus the good work which has been started has been nullified.

Therefore I should like to recommend to the minister and his department at this time,

when rehabilitation, especially in the west, is taking place, a policy of line breeding by community organizations, to be developed into larger districts, something like the county system which prevails in the old country, where probably two or three counties will raise shorthorn cattle, and others, which are near to large cities, will probably raise dairy cattle. Thus we would have better breeds, more uniform types from various areas, and premiums paid upon them. This seems a most opportune time to carry out a program of this kind, because we find the price of October wheat futures is down to seventy-eight cents, and if wheat goes down and the coarse grains market goes down with it, as it likely will with the large crop that is now predicted, there is going to be an abundance of feed, and we shall have fewer cattle in the west at a time when we should have large numbers. These conditions, of course, have been brought about by causes over which we have no control. However, the fact is that they have created a situation which requires dynamic direction. Throughout the west our organizations, possessed with a new vitality, will go forward in response to direction. They have made mistakes in the past, but they realize what can be done in the future. The Department of Agriculture, with a rehabilitation program ahead, and with a policy of line breeding such as I have suggested, suitable to certain localities, is in a position to encourage this kind of work.

By a follow-up policy we should encourage the good farmers, those farmers who are the back-bone of the country, who raise excellent stock, by giving them a fairly good price for the good stock which they raise. We should encourage them to go on with their work and should thereby stimulate the building up of good communities wherein farming would become profitable. As all hon. members know, farmers in the past have suffered greatly, and their remuneration has been very low. Unless a definite policy of mixed farming is now inaugurated, the country will probably suffer more in the future than it has done in the past. I recommend this development, knowing the minister has thought the matter over, but it has been brought to my attention in so many localities in which I am vitally interested that this would seem an opportune time to present it again and to urge that the department go forward with this policy.

Mr. BENNETT: The province of Alberta has long been famous for its production of pure bred cattle. While I cannot speak as an authority, I desire to direct attention to