

about Elvis Presley; he is a passing phase, like many others who have preceded him. Let us not forget that if we were teenagers and went to see him in a big theatre, where a man was walking up and down with a sign marked, "Scream", and everybody else screamed, we would do the same.

Hon. Mr. Reid: We never fainted in our young days!

Hon. Mr. Davies: Anyway, such excitement is not common to the younger generation alone. Many will remember that at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, in the nineties, after the great tenor singer Jean de Reszke had finished one of his famous arias, society ladies often ran forward to the stage shouting, "Jean, Jean!", and throwing flowers at his feet. What is the difference between that and an excited crowd pulling at the pant legs of Elvis Presley?

Honourable senators, the Arts Council in Great Britain is spending \$2½ million a year in support of the arts. I have seen some of the results, and they have been very good. I am very glad that we are to have a similar council in Canada.

Turning now to the proposed Senate committee to consider what should be done to make better use of land for agriculture, I was disappointed the other day when, as I understood, the honourable leader (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) seemed to have forgotten Ontario when suggesting members for the committee. The honourable leader lives in Brantford, the centre of one of the lush farming districts of Canada. Eastern Ontario is not the centre of lush farming country; in fact, we have a rather barren hinterland in places. I suggest that when drawing up the membership of this committee the leader should not overlook men like the senator from Leeds (Hon. Mr. Hardy), who is one of our biggest dairy farmers, and the senator from Norfolk (Hon. Mr. Taylor), whom I consider to be a real down-to-earth farmer. Eastern Canada needs the attention of this Senate committee. The situation in eastern Ontario became so bad that there was established an organization known as the "Eastern Ontario Soil and Crop Improvements Association." That body has published a progress report, which I have read. The problem seems to be that we do not know what to do with a good deal of our unproductive land. Some of it is suitable for the growing of trees and some is not. The main problem in the hinterland of eastern Ontario is the drainage difficulty, which is costly to correct, especially over rough land.

I know something about reforestation, having planted more than 50,000 trees, some of which will mature in my lifetime and some long after I have gone. It is a well-known

fact that you cannot grow trees on every kind of soil; it is necessary to experiment and understand the type of soil before one can successfully practice reforestation. Today we have forestry schools, which no doubt will be able to supply a good deal of technical data to the committee, and a valuable contribution will be made by its findings.

I was a little worried when I heard the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig) suggest the other day that the work of this committee would apply to certain provinces only. I took the trouble of referring again to the Speech from the Throne, and I now understand that an investigation will be conducted with respect to poorer land all across Canada. Am I correct in that understanding?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: The reference to be placed before the committee has not yet been considered by the Senate, and I am not prepared to say what it will include.

Hon. Mr. Davies: Honourable Senators, in conclusion I should like to refer briefly to the preliminary report of the Gordon Commission and what it has to say about the Maritime provinces. I was not particularly worried by the suggestion that in certain circumstances some people in those provinces should be moved elsewhere in Canada, because I do not think there is any possibility of that being done. Some ten years ago I attended a dinner at which a distinguished economist predicted that it would not be long before people in the Prairie provinces would have to be moved elsewhere because they could not make a living in that part of Canada. The Prairie provinces, if you please, which last year produced 494 million bushels of wheat! Well, we have not moved any people from the Prairies, and judging from the standard of living enjoyed by those I know, I should say they are doing very well. I believe the Maritime provinces also will prosper in years to come.

Perhaps the trouble is that the Gordon Commission did not hear the right people in the Maritimes. Of course Maritimers have a technique of their own when they describe their circumstances. There is not much wrong with the economic condition of that part of the country; it is the way the people of the area tell about it that is alarming.

I first visited the Maritimes some forty years ago, along with a group of newspapermen who went down there for a good time. The president of our association lived at Summerside, Prince Edward Island. On the opening day of our meeting the Premier of Nova Scotia addressed us, and he gave us