

*Canadian Farm Loan Act*

applications for loans under the act last year indicates that it is not particularly popular. I agree with those who have asked for a different type of inspection. In my opinion a tribunal of farmers such as suggested by the last speaker and one of the previous speakers would be very satisfactory in my province and most parts of the country.

When I was speaking the other day the question of valuation was mentioned. At that time I stated that in the maritime provinces and in the province of New Brunswick particularly there is a rather peculiar situation. Most of the farms in many of the counties have what are known as lumber lots or woodlots in connection with the farm. They are really part of their farming operations because over a period of time the farmers have learned to harvest the annual growth of the woodlot and to treat it as a crop. When the inspectors come around to inspect their farms to determine whether or not they are entitled to a loan, it has not been the habit to take into consideration the woodlot. That has been my understanding. I may be wrong.

**Mr. Benidickson:** I have told my hon. friend the contrary.

**Mr. Brooks:** Possibly the parliamentary assistant did so. But the farmers tell me different, many of them. I am now speaking of the inspection. I think it would be well to emphasize that fact, Mr. Speaker, to the men who make the inspection, namely that the woodlot is an extremely valuable part of the farm and could definitely be taken into consideration.

The hon. member for Charlotte (Mr. Stuart) I considered to be very much out of order when he was speaking, and possibly I am out of order in replying to him.

**Mr. Benidickson:** This is a one-clause bill.

**Mr. Brooks:** In case the house gets the idea that the farmers in New Brunswick are well satisfied with the treatment they have received in connection with the matters he suggested, may I say this. If he had wanted to make a comparison, I think he could have gone further. He speaks about experimental farms. Of course the experimental farm in New Brunswick costs money and we are pleased to have it. It is an excellent farm. But if you go through the records, you will find that there are experimental farms in every other part of Canada that cost in proportion just as much or more. In that regard we have not received anything more than has anybody else. The hon. member for Charlotte speaks of potatoes. We received

[Mr. Brooks.]

some small assistance in connection with potatoes but it was very little. When you compare it with the assistance that is received by the farmers of western Canada, what our New Brunswick or maritime farmers receive sinks into insignificance, and our farmers think so too. I am afraid the hon. member for Charlotte would have great difficulty in persuading them otherwise. Again, in connection with P.F.A.A.,—

**Mr. Benidickson:** That is rather out of order.

**Mr. Brooks:**—we were pleased that western farmers were receiving some assistance.

**Mr. Benidickson:** That is still out of order, on this bill.

**Mr. Brooks:** Of course what the hon. member for Charlotte said was entirely out of order. They have received some assistance. We receive none comparable with that. As to P.F.R.A., we received a little bit of help in connection with our marshlands; but as far as money is concerned what we received in connection with marshlands is like the story of one horse, one rabbit. Western Canada is receiving the horse and we receive the rabbit and we are obliged to pay for the extra amount.

I am not going to extend this argument any further, Mr. Speaker. My idea was just to point out how utterly ridiculous are the statements made by the hon. member for Charlotte here this afternoon when you undertake to analyse them. Our farmers need more assistance. The hon. member comes from a fishing community and I greatly doubt that he knows much if anything about the needs of the farmers in other parts of the province of New Brunswick.

**Mr. Benidickson:** The hon. member for Restigouche-Madawaska (Mr. Van Horne) said you had a good provincial scheme of your own.

**Mr. Brooks:** We have the provincial scheme. We are not unique in that. Quebec has a provincial scheme also. As I say, only 40 farmers in the province of New Brunswick last year took advantage of this present scheme. If there were some relaxation in the matter of inspection and in the matter of valuation, I think that more farmers in the province of New Brunswick would take advantage of this scheme.

**Mr. Hayden Stanton (Leeds):** Mr. Speaker, the other day I made a few brief remarks on this bill. At this time I wish to make two or three other observations but I will not take up too much time. I feel that the farmers who are trying to set up farming for