

The Address—Mr. Fair

"looked-forward-to" holiday each year. To place it on an equal level in significance with "Labour day", the industrial and commercial workers' holiday.

To further strengthen bonds of co-operation and partnership between rural and urban dwellers.

To these objectives, the businessmen and citizens of Camrose sincerely dedicate this community-wide effort.

On that occasion the citizens and businessmen made provision to take care of all expenses of the celebration, with the exception of bottles of Coca-Cola, which were sold on the grounds at the wholesale price of five cents a bottle. We had there what I believe was the largest barbecue ever held in Canada. Nineteen hindquarters of the best beef Canada can produce—because it was produced in Alberta—were barbecued. We had with us the mayor of Edmonton, Mr. William Hawrelak, and the mayor of Calgary, Mr. Don Mackay, who came to do some of the carving. We also had in attendance the provincial minister of agriculture, Hon. Mr. Ure who, I believe, was given the first slice; at least I saw his picture in the newspaper the following week. Therefore I think it must have been pretty good food.

Those people realize the importance of agriculture. Perhaps in this connection I might read a statement from the Alberta wheat pool budget of August 28. This is credited to Shen-nung, a Chinese emperor and the inventor of agricultural implements, in 2800 B.C. He had this to say:

The well-being of a people is like a tree; agriculture is its root, manufacturing and commerce are its branches and life. If the root is injured, the leaves fall, the branches break away and the tree dies.

I am sorry that many of our business people have not yet seen the truth of that observation. There were gathered in Camrose on that occasion 13,500 people, and they were served with those 19 quarters of barbecued beef and a large quantity of salmon. The program commenced at ten o'clock in the morning. In addition to the events put on by the chamber of commerce of the town the members of different farm organizations had their picnics at noon on the grounds provided by the board.

This I believe was an outstanding recognition of the importance of agriculture, and I commend it to other communities across Canada. They also had a baseball tournament, and it required two or three days to finish it off.

In that town they also have a very good newspaper. I am not quite sure of the circulation, but I believe it is close to 6,000. At the time of the weekly newspapers association convention the Camrose *Canadian* took top place for its editorial page, with 23.8 points

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out of a possible 25. It must be recognized that the paper is really doing a worth-while job. I understand it came within a hair-breadth of taking the community services award also. That shows what good newspapers we have in my territory when the *Canadian* took the place it did in competition with all the newspapers in Canada. At that time my own local newspaper, the *Vermilion Standard*, took second place in the smaller circulation class. That is really worth while.

A couple of months ago a friendship train was sponsored by the chamber of commerce of the city of Edmonton. Some 88 members started out from Edmonton one morning and stopped at various towns until they reached Wainwright, where they stopped, and eventually they went on to Saskatoon during the night and spent the next day playing golf and taking part in other amusements. They left Saskatoon that night, and on their way back to Edmonton the next day they stopped at Camrose.

I believe a friendship train is a good idea, and Camrose seems to have a number of original ideas. One of these they put into effect when the friendship train was going through. When the train arrived at the station the visitors found that the platform had been roped off and fixed up as a stock corral. On the ground to greet the visitors was Mr. George Goldberg, president of the chamber of commerce, who took Mr. Winspear, the president of the chamber of commerce in Edmonton, over a stockloading chute. The two presidents were hauled down the streets on a manure spreader pulled by a tractor. Other members of the delegation were treated in a similar manner, although they did not use a manure spreader. They used different methods; I believe some hayracks were employed. When that was done, through the hospitality of Camrose—I have sampled some of it, and I do not think you will find any better cooks than they have out there; there was a heavy sprinkling of Scandinavian people among them—the visitors were taken to the basement of a church and treated to what they called a topsyturvy or upside-down dinner. They started out by singing "God Save the Queen" and then they served apple pie and cheese. They cleared the tables and served roast beef; cleared the tables again and served tomato juice and other things, and finished up with an address of welcome.

Mr. MacInnis: What were the other things?

Mr. Fair: The other things I will explain to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway a little later on. Perhaps we shall do something about that after I am finished here.