

designed for human consumption, and in addition all live and dressed poultry and eggs should be subject to the jurisdiction of the board, in the above manner.

I am sure that gives everybody a good idea of what is wanted by the farmers. When we applied in days gone past for the setting up of this board we were asked where the money was to come from to finance it. In a previous talk in this house I said that I was quite sure the money could be found by taking over the condemnation insurance; that is the board of live stock commissioners would handle the condemnation insurance. In the veterinary directors' report for 1943, page 31, you will find that .19 of one per cent was sufficient to handle condemnation insurance as far as hogs were concerned. It is indicated on the same page that the costs as regards cattle and sheep were higher, but taking the averages together you will find that a quarter of one per cent would have carried these charges in 1943. This would mean that neither the government nor the farmer would need to pay any more than they are paying to-day.

A tremendous number of animals are slaughtered in a year. The last figures I have, taken from the report of the Department of Agriculture, are: Hogs, 6,140,614; cattle, 929,157; sheep, 832,070. I do not wish to enlarge on this matter; I have drawn it to your attention, Mr. Speaker, in the hope that the government will do something about it.

I would also appeal at this time to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) to do something about the 186-pound hog. It is his argument that there must be a jumping off place somewhere, but on to-day's market that one pound of pork costs the producer \$2.32, which is too large a jump at one time. I ask the minister to try to get it halved. The effect is perhaps worse to-day than it has ever been before, because transportation is difficult. We have quite a job getting our hogs away in time; they easily get over that 185-pound weight. An alteration of the present regulation would create a favourable impression wherever hogs are produced.

On a previous occasion when I was trying to speak to the Minister of Agriculture about wool and sheep I was ruled out of order. I understand that it is permissible to bring the subject forward to-day. It is unfortunate that the agreement for a bonus on wool requires that the provincial governments must pay their share or the farmer gets nothing. The federal government pays a bonus of two cents for the production of good wool. In Manitoba our provincial government do not consider it their business to subsidize wool or anything else; they regard that as a federal obligation.

But across the border, in either Ontario or Saskatchewan, one finds the farmers getting four cents for good wool. I can assure the house that Manitoba produces just as good wool as the other provinces, but because our provincial government is not sympathetic we do not get anything. I again appeal to the government to do something about this matter, so that Manitoba producers may receive at least the two cents which Ottawa pays farmers in other provinces.

I have here a cutting from the *Winnipeg Tribune*, October 15, 1943, showing that sheep sold for seventy cents each on the Winnipeg market:

Whole live sheep weighing 120 pounds sold to-day on the local market for 70 cents each. Local live stock men thought this was an all-time low. The quoted price at the close was 50 cents a hundred pounds.

There were 500 sheep on the market that day. I understood when the meat board was established that it was to be their duty to protect these markets. The sheep which were bought on that market were sold at the ceiling price. The Minister of Agriculture may tell me to-day, as he told me before, that no doubt they were old sheep. Suppose they were old sheep. There were two shanks and a brisket of mutton there. We had meat rationing and meatless Tuesdays and that was valuable meat because it was good for stewing purposes, no matter how old a sheep was. Moreover, on the back of that sheep there was a fleece worth \$1.80, and it cost only thirty-five cents to process the carcass; that is, to clean it and get it ready for the butcher. Where was the meat board? It should have done something about that. But let us carry that a little further. In my constituency there are a good many sheep growers. It cost them fifty cents a hundred to ship sheep to the Winnipeg market. You can understand what was left for the farmer when he got his returns back selling at fifty cents a hundred. I do not think the meat board were up to their job when they allowed such a thing to happen.

Now that I have mentioned the meat board I might as well say something about them. Most hon. members know who compose the board. There is the Hon. J. G. Taggart. Then there is Mr. A. Morin, Associate Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Quebec. There is Mr. L. C. McQuat, general agricultural representative of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. There is Mr. S. E. Todd, managing director for the council of Canadian meat packers. Mr. J. G. Taggart is chairman; the government appointed him. He has been superintendent of experimental farms, a member of an agricultural school, and he has been