

The employment of fertilizers in Canada has been to date a very small matter compared with that in some other countries in which the soils are lighter and poorer than ours, but this use will assuredly increase. It cannot be otherwise with the adoption of intensive methods, the larger returns for farm produce, the increase in the price of land and the establishment of larger, better, steadier markets at home and abroad for farm produce.

In this account I have said nothing of that part of our campaign that has dealt with the choice of crops, with live stock—their care and feeding. These matters, of almost equal importance with that of crop production, have received the attention they merit. Practically every phase of farm life and work has been dealt with, but time to-night has only permitted me to bring before you in outline our teachings in this fundamental proposition of increased crop production.

At the outset of this address I said that this campaign to our farmers was one, not only of education, but one in which the men on the land were called upon from patriotic motives, as members of the great British Empire, to do their very best in these troublous times for their King and Country. They have been impressed with the fact that a great responsibility rests upon each one of them to put forth every effort possible towards increasing their farm products. As their lot is no easy one in ordinary times and doubly hard now that labour is so scarce, words of encouragement and inspiration have been spoken. Farmers are a hard working class under ordinary circumstances, now they are called upon to do a little more, work a bit longer and a bit harder. They need our sympathy and encouragement.

But there is no need to dwell at length on this phase of the campaign. I cannot do better in closing than quote from an appeal by Lord Selborne, President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, to English farmers for an increase in the food production from the land. His words were direct and struck the right chord and they are as applicable in the Dominion of Canada as in the old land. He said: "You have something more on your shoulders than your own business to-day. You are no longer individual farmers making your own fortunes or losing them. You are trustees on your own land to do your best for England. You have your duty quite as clear and as definite as the captain of the cruiser or the colonel of a battalion. England has a claim on you farmers, men and women of every class, as clear as she has on our sons and husbands to go and serve in the trenches". These surely are inspiring words and clearly state the imperative duty of every farmer in the British Empire in these days.