

*Farm Prices*

I think the leading industrialists in the United States visualize. Therefore, unless the peoples of Europe can find money to buy the products of our farms I have great fears as to our being able to establish and carry out a substantial export trade.

I think the people of this country, notwithstanding the high praises that the minister has tendered to his own party and its political philosophies, will be willing to wait and see how this legislation works out. I think they will be willing to give anything a trial that the best brains of the country say is the best that can be produced. Yet I am not satisfied that it is the best that can be produced. I offer no alternative; I do not know enough about the situation to offer an alternative, and in that I am entirely honest and frank. Therefore, while I think we are 100 per cent behind the objective of this bill, yet I believe that the minister should not have gone out of his way to give us all a lecture at this time in the house, and that is really what I wanted to say.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I believe that our time would be much better spent in looking forward rather than in looking at the history of the past. In order to keep the record straight I should like to say something in regard to the reference that the minister made to myself. He said that I had previously supported the Liberal party. It was 1926 when I first went to his town that I supported the Liberal party.

Mr. GARDINER: I am talking about 1929.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I went to your town in 1926.

Mr. GARDINER: The time I was talking about was 1929.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I supported you in 1929. If proper social legislation had been forthcoming from the Liberal party in this country I might have been supporting it yet.

Mr. MARTIN: You will do it again.

Mr. MITCHELL: You will come back to earth.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: It was the failure of the Liberal party which caused us to build this new cooperative party.

Mr. GARDINER: You changed while we were not in power.

Mr. MARTIN: You have a long life ahead of you.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: The minister has not been defeated since 1914.

Mr. GARDINER: No.

[Mr. R. B. Hanson.]

Mr. CASTLEDEN: And you were Premier of Saskatchewan in 1929. It was because of the failure of the Liberal party that we found it necessary to start building a new democratic social party.

Mr. MITCHELL: What is new about socialism?

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: Now that is straightened out, let us get on with the business.

Mr. BURTON: I did not take part in the debate on second reading of this bill for two reasons. One was that I was in full accord, as were the other members of this group, with the principles contained in the bill. The second was that other members of the group had previously stated our position, and I did not think it necessary to take up any of the time of the house on second reading of the bill. However, I say that while I enjoyed listening to the minister in his first speech on introducing the bill and enjoyed still more his speech when he closed the debate, yet, like the hon. member for York-Sunbury, I feel that it would have been a better speech had he left out some of the things which he felt it was necessary to bring in toward the close of that speech. It seems to me that the minister is not satisfied, even though he has support for his bill from all sides of the house; he must have unqualified, unquestioned support for the dot over every "i" and the cross over every "t". With his experience in the legislature and in parliament he certainly knows it is the duty of those sitting in opposition to help the government to improve legislation that is presented to the house. When we offer criticism in committee of the whole, which is the proper place to deal with the details of a bill, we are not only exercising our right but performing our duty as we should. So that if the minister has not known it up to the present, we are serving notice that we are not sheep in his fold. While we are in agreement with the principles contained in this bill, still we contend that certain parts of it need to be improved if it is to come up to the expectations of those whom it is designed to help.

The minister questioned the wisdom of those who suggested that this legislation should remain in effect beyond merely the transition period, that it should be of a more or less permanent nature. He contended that it would be required only during the period of transition, and that if it were found necessary to extend its life that could be done by the government of the day. I should like to point out to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the