

had the idea that capital punishment should be eliminated. However he was friendly towards the cattle trade. This matter may be treated lightly in the house, Mr. Speaker, but I say it must be taken seriously because conditions out in the west are not good. My work as a member of this house is to try to bring back better conditions on the land and make western Canada more prosperous. Not only do I wish to see the constituency of Marquette prosperous but I want to see the western prairies in better circumstances. We have in the west the richest land which lies out doors; God has given us a heritage of six inches of the richest top soil in the world.

The constituency from which I come is the most picturesque in western Canada.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. MULLINS: Next summer it is expected that in the constituency of Marquette a national park will be opened. It will be the most picturesque park in Canada and I may say that it does not take second place to Prince Albert. It is situated on Clear lake. The district I represent is absolutely adapted for the raising and production of live stock and diversified farming. When we get the pure-bred sires out on the land and prevent our steers from going to the United States I think the cattle trade will be in a more profitable condition and our western people will be more prosperous. The farmer with one crop of wheat is in the same position as the man with one crop of cotton; he cannot live by wheat alone. The farmers in Arkansas are in trouble at the present time with their cotton crop because that is the only crop upon which they have to depend.

I wish to see greater success for the live stock industry and I have every confidence in the hon. gentleman who occupies the seat of Prime Minister on this side of the house. If I had not confidence in him I would move over to the other side and give my hon. friends over there a hand. This is not a one-man government; I do not want hon. members to think that for a moment, and it is unfair for hon. members to point their fingers and make that insinuation. Our hon. leader has left us free. He has not coerced me; he has never said to me that I must do this or I must do that. He has left me my freedom, and that is why I have spoken to you in this manner to-night.

I am not inclined to take up any more time because I may have something more to say later on. I am not going to dangle a pair of socks in front of you. Having heard the remarks of the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr.

[Mr. Mullins.]

Brown) I priced socks in the stores of this city of Ottawa but I did not find any priced as low as ten cents. I do not know where he got his 10 cent socks; probably they are of foreign origin. I cannot understand the hon. member; I want something bigger, something more convincing. Western Canada does not ask for that cheap stuff, certainly not the people in the northwestern part of Manitoba. They are not sending me here to dangle a pair of 10 cent socks before this house.

An hon. MEMBER: How about the old hen?

Mr. MULLINS: The old hen is all right. I am not responsible for the low price of eggs. I heard an hon. member from British Columbia say that the hens out there had laid 340 or 350 eggs a year. It should be borne in mind that we have had an open winter in western Canada, and if the hens are busy it is not my fault. We have had periods of depression before and Canada has come back; she will come back again. While on my last campaign I saw an old gentleman 84 years of age summer-fallowing his land in readiness for next year's crop. That is the spirit that will bring western Canada back to normal. We in the west beyond the great lakes say to the east: Let us be Canadians, let us have the Canadian spirit, and so hasten the economic recovery of the Dominion as a whole.

Mr. JOHN VALLANCE (South Battleford): Mr. Speaker, my good friend from Marquette (Mr. Mullins) and I have many times discussed the subject that he has been dealing with. I agree with him in many respects especially in his statement that much of southwestern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta should never have been brought under the plough. I think that is probably one of the wisest statements he has made to-night.

Now that we are not so hurried as we were in the special session, I should like the opportunity of congratulating the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) on his selecting as Minister of Agriculture a member from the province of Saskatchewan. I notice that he is not in his place. I have had the pleasure and privilege of knowing the Hon. Robert Weir, as Harry Lauder says, "for a very considerable period." I knew him first of all as a school inspector in my own school section, and he was first class in that capacity. My wish to Bob Weir, as we affectionately call him out there, is that he makes as great a success as Minister of Agriculture as he did as school inspector.