

How could the farmers plough deep with their skinny horses, the bones just cutting through the hide, and the government coming along with the oats two months too late, at the tail end, always behind like a cow's tail? In the meanwhile the grasshoppers are hopping around and getting their work in. That is the situation. I shall be the first to congratulate the minister if he can show that he has had big loans earmarked by orders in council for hopper control last year. I shall still have some inquiries as to why over five times as much money is pouring into Saskatchewan in the month of May as into Manitoba. This may be just an accident; there is an election on in Saskatchewan but surely that is not the only reason.

Mr. McINTOSH: Three weeks from today will tell the tale.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The two adjoining provinces are nearly as red as ours with grasshoppers, but they are not getting as much together as Saskatchewan is getting alone nor nearly half as much, and none at all for hoppers. Will the minister kindly explain?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): To clear up one reference made by the hon. member for Melville about the saving of fourteen bushels out of fifteen bushels to the acre, may I say that that statement was made with the qualification: If the farmers would carry out the program as outlined. It was not on the basis of an estimate; it was on the basis of actual results as having taken place when thorough control methods were lived up to.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I think that would be right. If there were enough grasshopper bait and sufficient man help to distribute it, that could be nearly done, I think.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The areas that are infested with grasshoppers are as follows:

Very Severe	
Province:	Acres
Manitoba . . . . .	661,000
Saskatchewan . . . . .	18,123,000
Alberta . . . . .	3,064,000
Total Area of Crop Land Requiring Organized Control	
Province:	Acres
Manitoba . . . . .	2,000,000
Saskatchewan . . . . .	14,755,000
Alberta . . . . .	3,500,000

Mr. McINTOSH: Just what parts of the three provinces do those figures cover? Mostly in the south and centre?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Mostly south and centre.

It is rather difficult for one coming from Saskatchewan and having been as closely in touch with conditions in that province as I have been through the portfolio I hold, to reply with any degree of restraint to what I consider the most unworthy exhibition that has ever been given in this house since I have had the honour to be in it—

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Hop to it as far as you like.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): —and especially because of the support the hon. member for Melville was given by the hon. member for North Battleford, also from the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. McINTOSH: Hear, hear.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): And the hon. member says "hear, hear," showing that he has no shame with reference to the remarks he has made. The method of dealing with grasshoppers, outside the supplying of poisoned bait, is that of ploughing down the grasshoppers at times when it is recommended that this operation should take place. In Saskatchewan we have 18,000,000 such acres that have to be cultivated and prepared to meet and defeat the ravages of the grasshoppers. The regrettable part is that this area is one where for years there have been successive total or very considerable partial crop failure. The result is that the farmers there are not equipped with feed to carry out these operations or with gasoline for those who use tractors. It is in this connection that the money is advanced so that they may pay for feed that is bought and for which commitments have been made or where necessary that they may buy more feed for this particular operation. For this purpose some of this feed has been already purchased and used and this year the same as other years the identical policy has been followed of meeting the demands of the various provinces when they submit a statement to us that they are in a position to deal with the abnormal demands made upon them. This is true particularly in connection with Saskatchewan that has been hit incomparably with other provinces by forces over which neither they nor any other human agency had any control. In Saskatchewan the cost of feed for live stock, including the price of the feed itself and also the freight, has been the biggest load they have had to carry. The area being