

Supply—Agriculture

the provincial government, by way of building a veterinary school in Alberta. Again, naturally I may be prejudiced; but the city of Calgary, part of which is in Bow River and which is the centre of the cattle industry, would then have the privilege of having a veterinary school for western Canada at its new university. I make that suggestion in all sincerity believing, as I say, that we are the heart of the cattle belt of the prairies.

One other suggestion which I made the other day when taking part in the debate with reference to prairie farm assistance was that I trusted the Department of Agriculture would take a serious look at amendments to the act with regard to the question of hail. As I have said before, the destruction caused by hail is different from that caused by drought. Hail descends in strips, and it is nearly always impossible for a farmer to qualify within the 12-section block when he is in an adjacent section and has suffered damage from hail.

I would ask that we take a serious look at the question and bring in these people who suffer losses, like those in Beiseker in Alberta and other places under the act. I appreciate the fact that these people can take out hail insurance. Some of these belts along the foothills have difficulty in complying because this is the hail belt of the prairies. With those two suggestions being made, I wish to say at the outset that I was most happy to hear the hon. member for Assiniboia today speak in such glowing terms with regard to the former minister of agriculture; I refer to the late Right Hon. J. G. Gardiner. Even we Conservatives who have been traditionally Conservative have always felt that he made some contribution. However, it was rather surprising, coming as it did from the hon. member for Assiniboia. I am reminded of Shakespeare, and would just change one word: Frailty, thy name is Argue.

In reading *Hansard*, it is not necessary to go very far back. It is necessary only to go back to 1957. There I notice the same words, no doubt sung by the same man and sung to the same tune, only he changes the name of the party. As found at page 458 of *Hansard* of 1957, volume 1, what did he say. He was interrupted by the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate. Of course, you know what that does, Mr. Chairman. If you interrupt the hon. member for Assiniboia, that interruption gives him more juice with which to run that motor. After the interruption, this is what he said:

Mending broken Liberal fences, and there are lots of them. They are breaking down all over western Canada. The minister was out there lining up the old Jimmy Gardiner political machine.

You will recall that the other evening when we were listening to that most interesting

debate, he accused us of running a Jimmy Gardiner political machine. On that occasion I suggested to him that he had had a nightmare or also, in the alternative, because he had left the socialist party and had moved over to the Liberal party, he was able to get into that file of Jimmy Gardiner which otherwise he would not have been able to look at. This is what he said at this stage, in 1957. It is rather interesting:

It is pretty rusty and in a bad state of repair in many places—

I do not know how their fences are now but I leave it to the house to judge.

—but the minister says it is good for one more run and he is going to make the best use of it he can. If a stranger had come to Saskatchewan last fall not knowing who the Minister of Agriculture was, I am sure that from looking at the *Leader-Post* and other daily newspapers, he would have thought that the minister was a paid organizer for the Saskatchewan Liberal party and had never been east of Fort William.

In the same speech he also said this. It is always interesting to go back to these old songs:

He says to the farmers: Do not worry;—

This is what he says about Jimmy Gardiner.

—I know you are broke because you have got too much wheat, but sooner or later there will be a couple of dry years and you will sell your wheat and you will then be broke because you no longer have any wheat. In the meantime he goes along, as I say, oiling up his defunct and discredited political machine.

Those are the words that were put to the tune of 1957. The same words were used to a different tune because the orchestra was different. However, it is the same old thing over again. Maybe I should put a little bit more of it on the record. As found at page 459 of *Hansard* he said this:

The Minister of Agriculture was in Saskatchewan. He did not spend all his time in his home constituency.

The hon. member for Assiniboia did not like that in those days. He did not want Liberals in Assiniboia.

He came down into Assiniboia constituency and other constituencies in western Canada. The Jimmy Gardiner political machine was prepared to go into Assiniboia and to take things over in an important way, because the Minister of Agriculture was quite happy to come to a convention where they chose as their political candidate somebody who has acquired a reputation for transferring from one political party to another.

He was thinking of his great friend Ross Thatcher. My main point in referring to these things is not to ridicule my good friend as I have a great deal of respect for him. We graduated from the same university. However, I say to the committee and to the press of Canada: Do not take this man too