

the last sixty years in which he did not take an active part. He was progressive in his ideas and always striving to raise the standards of the poorer classes.

During the past year we have lost many useful public servants. I am sure we all greatly regret their passing, but their works remain to keep their memories fresh.

In the speech from the throne mention is made of the coronation. It must have been pleasing to the Prime Minister and his ministers to know that while they were taking part in the festivities in England, all across the Dominion of Canada, in every city, town and hamlet, citizens from all walks of life were gathered together to rejoice and celebrate as was being done in England. This must have been pleasing also to Lord Tweedsmuir, the representative of our king, George VI. We have followed with intense interest the travels of His Excellency during the past year. A gentleman who is so anxious to gain first-hand knowledge of the remote parts of Canada must be a useful servant, not only of the people of Canada but of His Majesty the King.

Mention is made also of the tragic crop failures in Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. It is hard for us to realize just what these successive crop failures mean. There is not only a loss of purchasing power to thousands of farmers, but also a reduction in the revenues of our railways. Then in addition the thousands who have been left without any means of support must be cared for.

There is one feature of the handling of this situation which I think is worthy of mention. The government decided, I believe rightly, that it would be much cheaper to reduce the number of live stock in the dried out areas to the minimum rather than to import feed to carry them over the winter. The stock was gathered together and taken to feeding grounds in Manitoba. They were then graded and each animal was sent to the proper market. It appears to me that that was good business on the part of the government. As we all know, there are speculators who are ready to take advantage of the distress or lack of knowledge of the farmer, but the opportunity of taking that advantage was eliminated by the action taken by the government. Much of this stock was sold by auction at the yards in Manitoba and the returns from the sales were made to the farmers in the dried out areas.

We are glad to report that the condition of our farmers generally is gradually improving. Back taxes are being paid up and cars which have been locked up are again being taken out. Telephones which have been dis-

connected for some time are now being hooked up. The new agreement entered into between this government and our neighbours to the south has had a great deal to do with improving the condition of many of our Canadian farmers. To quote a few examples: In 1935 we sold \$12,987 worth of alfalfa seed to the United States; in 1937 this had increased to \$826,507. Of cattle we sold in 1935, \$5,617,861 worth; in 1937 this had increased to \$13,553,064, an increase of 141 per cent. Of horses we exported in 1935, \$630,331 worth; in 1937 the export had increased to \$1,309,535, an increase of 107 per cent. Of live poultry we shipped in 1935, \$14,535 worth; in 1937 this had increased to \$833,235. The percentage of increase in this case would be so great as to look rather ridiculous, so I have not worked it out. Of cream, in 1935 we shipped \$7 worth; in 1937 the value of our shipments was \$191,911, and even at that we did not nearly fill our quota.

These results do not appear to have interfered at all with our trade to the British Isles. We find that, as regards the export of cattle, in 1935 we shipped to Great Britain 6,704 cattle; in 1937 this had increased to 9,610, an increase in the numbers shipped of 43 per cent. In 1935 the value was \$428,838; in 1937 it was \$858,347, an increase of 100 per cent. Of cheese we shipped in 1935 527,196 hundredweight; in 1937 we shipped 811,815 hundredweight, representing an increase in quantity of 53 per cent and in value of 97 per cent.

There is in Renfrew county, and, I suppose, in a great many other counties throughout Canada, quite a number of farmers who to a considerable extent depend upon forest products for their living. We have now reached a stage where we have a market for any of those products. No longer is our pulpwood rotting at the sidings and our mature timber deteriorating in the woods for lack of a market. Yet we as farmers have a great deal to learn, particularly as to the proper preparation of our products for market as well as the proper method of marketing them. It is comforting to know that in this regard the government proposes to give to the farmers of this dominion every possible assistance. I will give a small example of what may be accomplished in this respect. During the last two or three years the live stock branch of the federal government has been responsible for the organizing of some twenty-six associations throughout the province of Ontario which handle eggs and poultry on a graded basis. This business is done at the very minimum of cost. The farmer