

this is poverty, and I suggest to you that it exists in every province in Canada.

There are some other interesting figures in this study and, though it is not my intention to bore the house, some honourable senators may be interested in hearing them. The investment per cultivated acre in 1964 was \$74.45. The investment in machinery per cultivated acre was just under \$17. The average farm size today is 726 acres, and the average farm in Saskatchewan has an investment in lands, building, machinery and livestock of some \$37,000.

As I said a moment ago, I do not want to imply that this is a condition that exists only in my home province. It is a condition that exists throughout Canada, and I think it can be alleviated by the implementation of many of the policies referred to in the Speech from the Throne.

I know that in the Speech from the Throne there are several references to programs that could be of great help to the western farmer, but it is not my intention to elaborate upon them at this time, because I would very much like to have the legislation in my hands before I make any extensive comments. I do want to refer, however, to that portion of the Speech from the Throne that says a bill will be introduced to amend the Railway Act. Of course this measure is of first importance to the people of the Province of Saskatchewan. They will be more affected, I think, by the new railway legislation than any other province in Canada, as the railroads have suggested that there are more lines in Saskatchewan which they would like to abandon than in any other area.

I am not one of those who believe that some abandonments should not take place, but I do believe that no nation or no province can be great without adequate railroad facilities. They are necessary to move the goods and services that are produced throughout Canada. I do not think there will be much objection from the people of Saskatchewan to this legislation, provided adequate facilities are left in that province to move the goods and services that are produced there in abundance. It will be interesting to see what is included in the new Railway Act, and I shall undoubtedly have further to say about it at the appropriate time.

The Speech from the Throne also forecasts that cash advances will be made available for unthrashed grain. This is a welcome addition to the cash advances legislation which has been of great benefit to the western farmers.

This improvement will be very much appreciated, I am sure, by the producers throughout western Canada.

I was also interested to note that improvements will be made in the movement and marketing of feed grains in eastern Canada and British Columbia. This is of interest not only to the consumers, or the feeders, of feed grains in eastern Canada and British Columbia, but also to the farmers of the Prairie regions, the producers of the feed grains, because for many years they have produced feed grains in abundance and stored them but could not find buyers for them. There are many farmers in Saskatchewan who have had oats and barley—especially oats—in private storage for as long as ten years because they could not find a purchaser, and because they had no way of moving the grain had they been able to find a purchaser.

The reason for this was that for many years, when it was impossible to sell all of the wheat we produced, the lines of communication were plugged with unsaleable wheat. We had the feed in western Canada and were crying for a market, and the feeders in Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes and British Columbia were crying for the feed but we could not get it to them.

We have now the reverse situation. Our lines of communication are not filled with an unsaleable product. We are endeavouring this year to move 600 million bushels of wheat out of Canada into the export market, and of course the lines of communication are filled with a saleable product, but still we are not able to move the feed grains from the area in which they are produced to the area where they will be consumed. So, the western farmer has as great an interest in this legislation as have the people who reside in eastern and western Canada.

The western farmer is also interested in the forecast of an increase in the ceiling for long-term export financing under the Export Credits Insurance Act, as this legislation is used to move western Canadian grain into the export markets of the world.

There is a promise in the Speech from the Throne of legislation setting up the Company of Young Canadians. I know that there is a place for the operation of this company in Canada, but it is my opinion that the major contribution they can make is not in Canada but abroad.

On two recent occasions I had the opportunity of making a trip around the world, and on each I endeavoured to contact Canadians wherever they might be found. I