

in a man from the United States to sell those cattle, and he did not know a steer from a heifer. Pardon me, Mr. Speaker, if I talk western language, but I am bringing a message from the west. I do not want to break the rules of the house; I simply want to speak plainly, and I will not break the rules of the house by reading my speeches as do some of my hon. friends on the other side. Every time my hon. friends read their speeches they are breaking the rules of the house as laid down in Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms.

The former Minister of Railways Mr. Crerar, put in a system and said, "Go on, ship in your cattle." The farmers were instructed to ship their cattle into a pool. They were told "Put your cattle in a pool." I saw cattle going to the pool valued at 2½ to 3 cents per pound which on the open market in the stock yard would bring about 4 cents per pound. Then they got a division of about thirty cents per hundredweight. What did they do then? They had a little pen near the weigh-scale in connection with which they built a high pinnacle on which the farmer was to sit so that he would not be in the road and could not hear what was going on. That is the gentleman hon. members opposite were pleased to make Minister of Railways. That is the gentleman who was brought down from the west and given a portfolio in the government Farmers' cattle were purchased at ridiculously low prices. I stood one day watching what was taking place in connection with this system and I must say that my blood ran cold as I saw the death of that industry approaching. I would not be in the house if it were not to defend that industry and to point out what is happening in the west.

At the present time there is another pool out west operated by some men whose names I do not know. I did watch the progress of the other pool, however. I watched Mr. Crerar who was at the head of the United Grain Growers, and after the farmers had been pumped about as dry as possible that movement was dropped. The United Grain Growers took nearly all the farmers had and as a result the farmers took the attitude that there was no money in cattle. No, there was no money in cattle. What further did the ex-Minister of Railways do? He induced them to export their cattle, and for the benefit of hon. gentlemen opposite may I say that I never could understand why the ex-Minister of Agriculture did not stop it. An exporter received one dollar per head for cattle shipped to England. They shipped about 100,000 cattle and half of them would not make corks for castor oil bottles.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. MULLINS: Do you wonder that the cattle trade was ruined? I stood on the Glasgow market and I saw those cattle there. Scotchmen are shrewd buyers; they know good cattle when they see them. They would not buy the rubbish and it was left there, the returns went home to the western farmers. They did not know what was the matter with the cattle business; they received scarcely any returns and the result was that they went out of the trade. They dropped the raising of cattle because they said it was not profitable. The ex-minister was responsible for the poor condition of the cattle trade, and that condition was brought about by shipping such poor rubbish to the old country markets. In order to make profits the better type of cattle must be shipped. In the past year some development has taken place in the matter of export trade and it has been due to the proper selection of export cattle. The proper men must be obtained to select the right type of market cattle for the various markets. As I stated before, rubbish must not be shipped; the best cattle should be shipped to the proper market.

There is another matter to which I wish to draw the attention of hon. members in this house. I see the farmers selling their barley for 20 or 25 cents a hundredweight. In the constituency of Marquette the farmers are receiving 10 or 11 cents per bushel for their barley, a ridiculously low figure. Then the farmers ship their cattle to the stockyards at Winnipeg and they have to pay \$1.50 a hundredweight for it. Is it possible to have a successful cattle trade under conditions of that sort? The farmer must pay \$1.40 a bale for hay for which he should only pay from 35 to 40 cents. A channel has to be opened up and something has to be done for this industry by bringing about lower costs.

I prefer the cattle to exclusive wheat growing any time. It is not nearly so laborious; western farms may be commercialized when the cattle trade is properly handled. The farmers say, "If we all go into that trade what will happen to it?" In reply I say that there is an unlimited market across the water; the foreign countries will take all we have if we produce the right type of cattle. I see sitting on the other side of the house the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa). He stood shoulder to shoulder with the late Robert Bickerdike who for many years was the desk mate of the hon. member for Labelle.

Mr. BOURASSA: Quite so.

Mr. MULLINS: Mr. Bickerdike was a good friend of the live stock industry, although he