

few days ago, when I was home, my brother-in-law told me that he was milking twenty-five cows, and he said, "I do not know what in the world we could have done if we had not been milking cows." But honourable members are greatly mistaken if they imagine for one moment that the farmers are going to be helped by a duty on butter or on eggs.

Hon. Mr. SCHAFFNER: They have already been helped.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I have not seen any evidence of it.

Hon. Mr. SCHAFFNER: The honourable gentleman may not have seen it, but that does not make any difference. The trouble is that he does not want to see it.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: "None are so blind as those who will not see."

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I think I know as much about farming conditions in the West as any other honourable member.

Hon. Mr. SCHAFFNER: But no more.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: No more, but no less.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: May I ask the honourable gentleman a question? He stated a moment or so ago that some of the things the Government have done are looked upon by the farmers as a slap in the face. Will he kindly tell us what particular actions he considers to have been a slap in the face?

Hon. Mr. FORKE: That is my opinion.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: That is a statement. Surely the honourable gentleman will back up his statement.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: If the farmers of Western Canada think that the Government have helped them, then it will be all right for the Government; if they think otherwise, then it will not be all right. But one would find it difficult to convince a farmer in the West that his market for wheat had been improved by any action that was taken at the recent economic conference in Great Britain.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: Certainly. No one would suggest such a thing.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: Eggs are selling at 15 cents, in the little town where I live. The merchant there says they are worth only 13 cents, but in trade he allows 15 cents for them. I wonder if that will signify anything to some honourable gentlemen opposite.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Are the Government responsible for the prices of grain and eggs, or anything else?

Hon. Mr. FORKE:

Hon. Mr. FORKE: The Government came into power on the promise that they would improve conditions.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: They have done that, as far as possible.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: But there were definite promises that these conditions were going to be immediately remedied.

Hon. Mr. SCHAFFNER: No.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: Was the honourable gentleman present when the Winnipeg speech was delivered? I checked that speech word for word from a typed document, and I can prove that the statement was made.

Hon. Mr. COPP: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: What is the difference between a few days and a short time?

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I repeat that there has been no help to date.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Well, it is coming.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I am sincere in my statements. I am anxious that the people in Western Canada shall prosper.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Not any more anxious than others are.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I do not say I am more anxious, but I think honourable members will credit me with sincerity of purpose. I know families who have been in the West thirty years and who to-day are in dire distress. Does that strike a sympathetic chord in the breasts of any honourable members? I know people who cannot pay their taxes this year, and who never before were in such a condition since they have been living in Western Canada.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Similar conditions have been going off and on for forty years.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I went there when there was nothing but the bare prairies.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: I was there before my honourable friend.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: Maybe that is so, but I think the honourable gentleman has forgotten something.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: No.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: I do not see why there should be so much heated criticism of my remarks. The only reason I can see for it is that I said the Government had not done anything to help the Western farmers.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: The honourable gentleman went further than that. He said that some of the actions of the Government were