

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Mr. Robinson said a few moments ago that a farmer kept no track of what he received for his dairy products. My experience in Eastern and Western Canada has been that dairying is a side line with most farmers. I remember that in 1900 we sold milk as low as fifty cents per hundred pounds. The milking was done night and morning, and it at least was a good method of training us young fellows to work. The situation in New Zealand is entirely different, where the farmer specializes in dairying, or in other branches, as the case may be. But in Canada, as I say, the farmer keeps a number of cows, and the chores are done by himself or his son as a side line.

Mr. ROBINSON: I would like to register my conviction that farming is not primarily a business, it is a way of life. No amount of bookkeeping, no matter how intricate, will suffice to show in the sense that the manufacturer can show, what it costs to produce certain forms of commodities, and no amount of bookkeeping will justify certain practices which might appear profitable on the books, nor suffice to cause the farmer to abandon certain other practices which might show a loss.

*By Hon. Mr. Horner:*

Q. And on no two farms would the cost of producing a commodity be the same, whether it be wheat, or any dairy product?—A. Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. BURNS: I agree with what Senator Horner has said. The labour connected with dairying that is carried on in a small way by the average farmer, does not cost him anything, and the money he gets from the sale of dairy products keeps the ball rolling.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. You speak of keeping dairy cows. Have you had any experience in keeping Holsteins or Ayrshires?—A. No, sir. I believe them to be not only equally well suited, but better suited to certain conditions. I believe Jerseys to be particularly well suited to my conditions. That is why I keep them.

*By Hon. Mr. Burns:*

Q. They are small milkers?—A. It depends on whether you get the price for the milk or not. The chief reason I keep Jerseys is that under our conditions in the Eastern Townships we never have a surplus of roughage; it is generally a question of a deficiency, and we must have a cow from which we can make the maximum possible out of each fork of hay. If I lived in Western Ontario, for instance, where there may be large surpluses of grain, hay and straw, in excess of the normal feeding capacity of the number of cows that a man generally keeps, then I would naturally keep a breed that consumed more rather than less.

Q. You cut up this straw, do you?—A. Cut it up, and use it for bedding.

*By Hon. Mr. Pope:*

Q. Have you a silo?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do you put in it?—A. Anything—corn, O.P.B., sunflowers, clover—any old thing at all.

*By Hon. Mr. Horner:*

Q. Have you any suggestion to make as to the method of improving conditions in the dairy industry?—A. Only such as would apply to the whole of agriculture. I did say, and I still think, it may be necessary to extend the principle of milk utility control boards to some of the cities in the East, with