

*The Address—Mr. Gregory*

would be that he would have increased influence in bringing his representations before the price control board.

It is a well known fact that there is nothing more sensitive than prices and production of all kinds of farm commodities. If one raises the price of a particular food product, the production increases; if the price decreases, there is an immediate response and reflection in the amount of that particular food which is raised.

I am going to pause here to say that there never was a time in the history of western Canada when there was the same degree of appreciation for the efforts of the Minister of Agriculture as there is at the present time. I do not think there has been a man in western Canada who has been more black-guarded at certain times, who has been more misrepresented, than the Minister of Agriculture. Not only in my constituency, but throughout the length and breadth of Saskatchewan there is a growing appreciation of the fights which the Minister of Agriculture has put up here for western agriculture. This appreciation has grown as the result of a broadening knowledge of the class of fight which the Minister of Agriculture has put up.

There is a further growing knowledge or growing opinion of a fact which I have emphasized on previous occasions in this house, that government must always be by compromise. We have four great regions in Canada, the maritimes, the central provinces, the prairies and British Columbia. No region gets all that it asks for. All that the members can hope to get from any government sitting in Ottawa is a compromise, taking into account the influences and objections of members coming from other regions. Therefore I say that with that growing knowledge that government must be by compromise, the Minister of Agriculture is receiving greater appreciation in western Canada than heretofore.

I am reminded to-night of a couplet which we learned as boys in school in that famous poem of Oliver Goldsmith, "The Deserted Village". In referring to the village preacher Goldsmith said this:

And fools, who came to scoff, remained to pray.

I am going to translate that liberally, and referring to the Minister of Agriculture I would say:

And those who came to scoff, remained to praise.

That is the attitude to-day in western Canada toward the Minister of Agriculture.

I view with great interest the arrival of a new party in the house with a refreshingly new creed. Or is it an old volume with a

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new cover? The leader of this new party, the Progressive Conservative party, is well known in western Canada. I should like to digress for a moment to congratulate the house leader (Mr. Graydon) of this party upon his elevation to his present position. May I tell him that there are many on this side of the house who would be almost inclined to forget his politics while basking in the sunshine of his lovely smile and gracious manner. As I say, the leader of this new party is well known in western Canada. At one time he was a farmer, and he has served the farmers of Saskatchewan through the college of agriculture in Saskatchewan and through the provincial department of agriculture at Regina. He is known to be progressive in his views and progressive in his outlook, but many of those standing on the side-lines are wondering if he will impose his views upon the party, or if the old, hard-cruised high tariff, Tory wing of the party will impose their views upon him. Mr. Speaker, may I say that I have no misgivings whatever of future happenings in this regard. There will be no hard-cruised, high tariff parties anywhere in Canada after this war is over. Many will be free traders, and we all will be believers in low tariffs. Let us view the picture for a moment; let us go back to the early days of Canada. In the primitive days of Canada's industrial growth the home market was the only market Canada had for her manufactured products. Thus a policy of protection of the home market by a high tariff was built up as a policy for the protection of industry in Canada, and it has continued ever since the "national policy" of 1874 was first initiated. But as Canada's industries expanded—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member's time has expired.

Mr. P. E. COTE (Verdun): Mr. Speaker, one feature among others of the speech from the throne has attracted the attention and the interest of the entire population of Canada, and doubtless of my constituents as well, many of whom I have already consulted in this regard. I refer to the proposed legislation on post-war social security. A committee of this house, to be assisted by an advisory board, which was appointed a few days ago, will soon be set up, whose definite duty it will be to study the social problem from its different angles and submit its conclusions to this chamber. Let us hope that this committee, one of the most important ever appointed by this house, will get into action at the earliest possible date, and that each of its meetings