

land.... The second thing is to bring down the cost of feeds through a feed mill.... You can produce fertiliser out of fish offal. They do it in the United States and Canada; we can do it in Newfoundland too.

Mr. Butt The evidence we got was that you must import 90% of the ingredients.

Mr. Smallwood I find it hard to believe. You have the raw material here.

Mr. Keough It is more profitable to turn it into fish meal than fertiliser.

Mr. Butt We have clear evidence from the Industrial Board, which went into it. They told us there was a possibility of looking into a fertiliser plant, but 90% of the ingredients would have to be imported; it may bring the cost down by \$5 a ton, and in addition Newfoundland would have the labour. They are looking into the question of milling feeds here.

Mr. Smallwood Talking about fertiliser, I went into a firm in Toronto to find out about double super-phosphate. The price was \$25 a ton, and the man said that no double super-phosphate was manufactured in Canada now. It is manufactured in the United States.... He gave me the names of three firms in Philadelphia and I wrote them; what do you think the price was? \$12 a ton. How much is it on Water Street today? \$48 a ton.... What chance has a farmer got in this country if the farmer in Canada can buy double super-phosphate for \$23 a ton or less? What chance has he got to grow hay or anything else? And in the outports, God knows how much it is.

Mr. Vardy I support Mr. Northcott. In looking over the land settlement business, it is a pretty dark picture. If money had been spent in encouraging local farmers by giving them a good bonus for clearing land, this country would have had better results. I refer to page 21:¹ "It envisages the settlement in the Upper Humber area of 300 full-time holdings by ex-servicemen by the end of 1948. The total estimated cost is \$1,800,000 or an average cost of \$6,000 per holding." In connection with the Public Health and Welfare Report, I had occasion to go to the Civil Re-establishment Committee and they gave me the figures as being \$5,000 per holding. Further down on that page² — part-time holdings, 300 ex-servicemen, grants \$724, total cost

\$757,200. That works out at \$2,524 per applicant. The figures they gave me in Civil Re-establishment work out at \$900. I hope someone down there is listening to me, because these figures were given me as correct. It shows what is happening with the work covering the same project, the same group of ex-servicemen, and one department does not know what is happening in the other. I am not blaming the Committee, they have done a good job; like ourselves, they have to accept the figures given. But if you check the figures you will find they do not work out right.

Mr. Butt The part-time holdings are not covered in the summary at all.

Mr. Northcott I agree with Mr. Smallwood on the feed business. If the government wanted to help the farmer, the farmer should be in a position to import his feeds direct. If a farmer wants 100 sacks of fertiliser he should be able to get a permit from the government to have that landed at his own place, instead of having it come to St. John's first and brought back again. The same thing applies to feeds. The farmer pays \$1.50 per sack more than he should, by reason of the fact that it has to come to St. John's first.

Mr. Fudge I visited Midland a number of times and I know quite a number of men there. They find it very hard to get their living; they have to go into the woods and so on. I regret that we have no report from some of our independent farmers on the west coast — such as Mr. Earle, the Whites and others.... In connection with assistance to farmers to grow potatoes, cabbage and so forth, I fail to see the use of encouraging those men and spending a lot of money, without giving them protection in connection with marketing. We see ads in the papers advertising local potatoes. Surely those men should be able to sell their vegetables. I regret that we get potatoes from Prince Edward Island, and that's the reason why some of our small farmers are unable to sell. I believe the government should see that their vegetables are sold before any are brought in from outside. Someone is going to say, "We can buy them cheaper". I believe it, but I want to show you something. I have before me the *Labour Gazette*, December, 1946, from Canada, and I find there that there are 2,902 Polish war veterans brought into Canada. They signed a two

¹Volume II:174.

²Ibid.