

*The Budget—Mr. Caouette*

least a reasonable well-being. He did not say to rob the rich for the good of the poor, but to "insure to each and everyone at least a reasonable well-being".

The minister understands that. However, he wants to pretend that he does not.

He ended his remarks by saying:

I wish I could propose to the people of Canada a means of receiving without giving.

• (5:00 p.m.)

Canada owes its tremendous productivity to its people. The government is inconsistent and so is the minister. He goes in western and in eastern Canada saying that the only way to increase the Canadian citizens' income is by increasing productivity. However, at the present time, steps are being taken in the field of agriculture for instance, to curb production in western Canada because there is a surplus. In eastern Canada, there is a milk surplus. Then, steps are being taken to discourage dairy producers. Measures are being taken in various sectors to decrease production. Then, in the house, we are being told that production has to be increased in order to raise the standard of living of the citizens. But where? Let us know about it.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, the Postmaster General and Minister of Communications stated:

I regret to say so—

I cannot afford it.

—but such a policy does not exist. It is a myth: the Social Credit myth.

Because Social Credit has never been put into practice. Is it a reason for not giving it a try? Is it a reason for not trying the experiment which I have been suggesting for 25 or 30 years? I am being accused of making the same speeches over and over again, of being a demagogue and so on.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, I have never promoted dissension among the classes of society. As I said before, I have called the people's attention to the ill effects of finance. I have not launched a personal campaign against the Postmaster General and Minister of Communications nor against the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion nor the Prime Minister of Canada. I do not engage in personal strife; my struggle is ideological. I pursue an ideology and I say to the government that you do not fight an ideology in a warlike fashion.

Communism is an ideology. Attempts have been made to fight it with weapons. Similar attempts were made with regard to nazism. An ideology is won with a better idea but never with weapons. That is why we are opposed to wars and we are engaged in an ideologic struggle.

The government's present ideology is not so good since they do not know where they are going.

I heard last night the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), on the television program "Under Attack" on channel 12. He did not put forward any solution. He was asked what was the difference between a Tory and Grit, and he said it was almost the same thing: The Tories are in favour of private enterprise. Then the interviewer asked: Are not the Liberals, the Prime Minister, also in favour of private enterprise? He said yes. Should we say he is a Conservative with a small "c"? Maybe. We might say he is a Conservative with a small "c". So, the Prime Minister of Canada would be a Conservative with a small "c"; the Leader of the official Opposition would be a Liberal with a small "l". A mixture of both gives the results we have known with the two old-line parties since Confederation. Big deal.

Social Credit is not a myth; it is something logical. The two old-line parties are trying at present to make the Canadian people swallow an ideological myth. The people are fed up. They have had enough of it and they want action. I repeat: we are not asking for the issuing of green bills or credit without any consideration or limit, but for a scientific, human balance between the purchasing power and the Canadian production. That is what we want.

Nothing is provided in the present budget to bring about an economic recovery; there is only talk about fighting against inflation, and during that time, the Canadian people are being penalized.

Mr. Speaker, we are definitely against keeping the people in poverty when there is abundance in Canada. If our country is rich, if it has a potential, as the Postmaster General and Minister of Communications said, let us use our unemployed to develop that potential, not the potential of which we have no need, but that which we need, that the people are asking for. Instead of letting the bread grow mouldy, as the Postmaster General said, let us distribute it to those who are hungry.