

Speech from the Throne

There is evidence, since strikes have been carried out, that the workers are no better off today than they were before. Their purchasing power has simply not increased, it has rather decreased.

At the present time, because of the financing of production through savings and profits, and for other less important reasons, there is inequality between the sum total of prices relating to production and that of the purchasing power generated by that production. In order to catch up with prices and in exchange for their participation in production, the consumers demand wage or salary increases which in turn are reflected in the ever increasing prices. It is the vicious circle of inflation.

To bring back stability between total production prices and the existing purchasing power the Social Credit Party offers a simple solution. It consists in giving the consumer a discount equal to the difference between the total prices and the existing purchasing power.

Let us say that a product is valued at \$1,000 and a total of \$800 has been paid in direct purchasing power, whether for purchasing raw materials or paying wages and salaries to employees. The consumers would then be eligible for a discount of 20 per cent which would allow them to purchase all available products. At the end of each month the retailer would bring to his bank vouchers for the discount granted, \$200, and the bank would credit \$200 to the retailer's account. The bank would then call upon the Bank of Canada which would reimburse the amount credited to the retailer.

The Creditists can therefore rightly suggest that the implementation of the policy would give all Canadians a perfect purchasing power, that is to say neither too high nor too low but just right to insure perfect stability with total prices.

Those are the main policies we offer this country and they are the true solutions to our present major problems.

Mr. Speaker, I noticed in the Throne Speech ending the last session as well as in the Throne Speech opening this session the same pattern of language.

The right hon. Prime Minister spoke today of the crisis of October 1970. That crisis, Mr. Speaker, was not spontaneous but it was premeditated and made possible because of bad administration and an inadequate economic system which made individuals and Canadian workers feel that they were being ignored by their leaders and only had laws they did not want. Those they want the government refuses to pass.

So leaders, individuals took the lead of groups of dissatisfied people and lead them to protest and violence.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if the present situation is allowed to go on we can probably expect those acts of violence to be repeated. The economic situation which now exists must obviously be changed. We must undertake a complete reform of our economy. This is why our very first political step must be to give each and every individual a tangible interest to defend, a concrete substantial reality for which

he will then, and only then, be prepared to fight and to make the sacrifices which he feels are necessary.

That tangible interest is not any obscure collective ownership of the means of production and of property, which in the past 30 years has done nothing for the Soviet masses, who also go on labouring hopelessly, day after day, on the threshold of poverty. This is all balderdash.

It is not a so-called "subsistence" minimum. It is not "collective agreement". It is not any vague "capital-labour association". It is not "pools" of any kind. Those things are all meaningless illusions within our present economic system, and they do nothing to correct the basic flaw of the economy, which is still considered, implicitly, as good and valid.

The interest of each individual, and the only true one, is to be able to benefit right now from a fair share of the present resources of the nation. It is, as was clearly stated in a famous encyclical letter, a certain degree of affluence and culture, not only for a few but for all workers, resulting from a fair distribution, in an amount adequate to meet the needs of decent subsistence, of all the goods which natural and industrial resources as well as a really social organization of economic life can supply for each and every member of the economic and social organization.

When each individual has this tangible thing to defend which will make real his personal interest in the society in which he lives, which will be his own indisputable uncontested share in the advantages of human association, when economic advantages become a fact and a daily reality, then, and only then, will the individual have an interest in supporting his government and abiding by its laws—and he will do so.

Today, more than ever before, any citizen has to question, demonstrate and resort to sit-ins in order to be listed to. And unfortunately the leaders in these disputes and demonstrations are not all Mahatma Gandhis or Martin Luther Kings, who could do so without resorting to violence.

There is nothing to show that violence will not endure so long as will prevail this atmosphere of uncertainty which may hit at any time any industry anywhere. Yesterday, workers in Témiscamingue-Sud thought that they had a secure job. Today, they are in the ditch, and the same is true for some nickel miners at Sudbury. There is less and less hopes for the automobile workers. We know the situation in which farmers find themselves. Whether big or small, nobody can hope to live without a subsidy from the state.

That is where the Liberal party has led us. That can no longer last. The Canadian people will see to it.

• (1620)

[English]

On motion of Mr. Deachman (Vancouver Quadra) the debate was adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Trudeau the House adjourned at 4.25 p.m.