

It is unfortunate that they have not more courage. I consider that the growing of wheat to-day is not as important as it was in years gone by, because countries to which we sold many years ago are now growing their own wheat. Nearly every month of the year wheat is ripening in some part of the world, so we need never hope for the same sale of wheat as we had formerly. If it were not for the fact that our Canadian wheat is superior to any other on the world market, it could not be sold at all. The people who buy it have no love for the treatment they received back in 1927 and 1928, when we killed our wheat market. That, however, is out of the question now, and has nothing to do with the present situation.

What has Canada done to help the motherland to protect the movement of our crops to large industrial centres in the British empire and, again, to protect those areas from bombing planes, which might destroy the market forever, so far as Canada is concerned? I am glad to see the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Mackenzie) is proposing to spend money now to defend our country. He will find no opposition from this party, so long as we are sure that the money is being spent to advantage. We have to trust somebody, and we might as well trust the present Minister of National Defence as anybody else while he is in power.

An hon. MEMBER: But.

Mr. SPENCE: Yes, there are some "buts."

An hon. MEMBER: Butts on the guns.

Mr. SPENCE: The Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) said that third parties grew while the Conservatives were in power. I do not take any stock in that at all. He made the further statement that the treaty of 1935 was satisfactory, and that no one could criticize it. He said it made a wider market, and created employment for thousands. We all know it has done nothing of the kind. We know it has destroyed the market, and we have lost, as a result.

It takes a man with a great deal of courage to make a wild statement like that. Sometimes the Prime Minister has courage, because he has a wonderful debating power when he makes a statement of that kind. He must have courage to make it. Let us go back to the years between 1921 and 1930 when the government led by the present Prime Minister was in office. More combines developed and more mergers were created during that time than in any other period of the history of Canada—and no effort was made to stop it. Gradually money got into too few hands. We did not have as fair a distribution of wealth

as formerly obtained. Nothing was done to look after the interior business of Canada, a business which should have deserved more consideration.

Mass buying has been encouraged by the party now in office, a procedure which has driven out individual merchants by the hundreds. That is the beginning of our trouble in Canada. If the mass buying proposition had been tackled at that time we should not have had the condition where so many people have gone broke—as they are doing to-day.

Some hon. members are good at rising in their places in the house and painting pictures of distress. In the best of times there were always some who painted such gloomy pictures. I could paint such pictures in regard to my own constituency, but I do not think it is good business to advertise the country adversely on the floor of the house, when we know what is said here may go all over the world.

My advice in connection with the budget is that it should be brought down much earlier than last year, so that the wheels of industry will not stop altogether. From now on everybody knows business will be lagging, and will continue to lag until the budget is brought down. For those reasons I wish the government would give the matter special consideration and bring down the budget in a hurry. I hope and pray that there may be no lowering of the tariffs for either farm or factory. A change in tariffs, whether they be raised or lowered, always creates trouble in the business world. I do not, and never did, believe in high tariffs. But I believe we have to protect the growers on the farm and the people in industry. There is no use in growers producing stuff unless the workers in the industrial centres have money to buy the goods. That is one of the important points to remember. Then, in Canada we have spent millions of dollars in educating the youth of Canada to develop the industry of the United States. That was done in those good old days when this dominion should have been growing by leaps and bounds. For years Canada was simply an incubator for the United States. Now our people cannot go over there, and they do not want to. Those who are there were treated well in the early days, and Canadians were always welcome.

Meddling with business and tinkering with tariffs in Canada brought business to a bad condition in 1930. Some hon. members have said that fifty per cent of the farmers are broke. Let me say that over fifty per cent of people who were in business in 1930 are out of business and penniless to-day. That is a worse condition than that of the farmers.