

*Food Prices*

• (1710)

We do not talk about that. Someone said that prices must be controlled, and that means wage control, profit control, indeed control of everything as was done during the war and two years after, I believe. The prices were controlled because it was feared there would be a shortage of products and coupons were issued. So we would have to go back to the coupon system. If we make a selection of products, we will end up with coupons. However, some feel the coupon is more respectful of the human being? It is impossible to adjust the ration coupon to the hungry stomach. No, the ration coupon is printed and then you have to make do with what you can buy with it. But they do not understand that. Let us take the workers in the Noranda mine, working in the hole. Some eat four sandwiches for their meal, but others who work at the same place need only one. But, the NDP says: No, that is wrong, everybody must have equal treatment. Let us give one sandwich to everybody. Those who need four sandwiches will starve. You, little man, will be restricted to three; let us give three to everybody. You are not hungry but eat anyway, it is the government's decision.

Mr. Speaker, we lived through those hardships during the war; I do not want them during peacetime nor do my colleagues. What we want is an increase in the purchasing power so that the consumers can buy products which are made for them. It is as simple as that. During the war, the price of every product was controlled: jams, cars, meat, butter, tea, coffee, etc. What were the results? Everyone was bothered.

Mr. Speaker, the compensated discount to the consumer should not be financed by taxes. When we already have enough, it is not time to tax more. The compensated discount must be financed by the Bank of Canada. The governor can increase the interest rates; he has done it a few days ago. The governor will be given orders to support consumption. Instead of being maker of interest, debts, taxes, the Bank of Canada governor would serve the Canadian people and not the Canadian chartered banks.

Mr. Speaker, that is the solution advocated by the Social Credit party. Some will still find this funny because the financial question overcomes them. Social Credit, it is said, will create inflation and so on. Inflation already exists, we have price increases and everything that goes with that. Social Credit is not applied in Canada but we have a liberal system similar to the conservative system of four or five years ago. The situation is the same all over Canada; premiers, prestigious and capable men fall on their knees in New York to sink the provinces and the country deeper into debt, and that is normal! Let them stand up as men before the governor of the Bank of Canada and tell him: Sir, you are an employee of the Bank of Canada belonging to the Canadian people; you shall do what we tell you and not what the financiers are ordering you to do. Then, we shall reach a solution. But we are all too much afraid to speak about it. Why? I do not know. Let us talk about everything except the actual reason for the Canadian people experiencing problems in Canada. The funny thing is that if a war was to break out tomorrow morning, there would be no more problems. The financial circles would be on the spot just as quickly

as guns would be available; the financial circles would be in attendance, quite manageable, and we would be short of nothing. We hear about pollution and the costs of a controlling it. The American people say that such an undertaking will cost a lot of money. If they spent to fight pollution half of what they have spent to land on the moon, the pollution problem would be quickly solved in North America. However, it was more important to fool away their time on the moon, where they could see nothing, than to create on earth a system allowing human beings to live as human beings should and can live in affluent countries. People are moved to pity, and rightly so, by the fate of underdeveloped countries, but they are afraid to be moved to pity the fate of the Canadian people.

Mr. Speaker, time will come when people will see otherwise. People will turn to the Social Credit party to promote personal initiative, help private enterprise, develop our country to the utmost, find help for the Canadian people and all the others who need us.

Mr. Speaker, we will be witnessing in our country some difficulties experienced in many other countries. We will then be put into a strait jacket as in socialist countries where the government takes all decisions, where people are even afraid to state openly their views, where they are always afraid to be caught napping by the state police force. We will then regret having remained idle when we still had the freedom and the power to act. It will be too late because we will have refused to consider making the necessary changes.

Mr. Speaker, are we going to wait to be bombed before acting and looking for true solutions. We must not find solutions by creating new and worse problems than those we now have. Price controls would be worse than present conditions. We would restrict personal initiative and free enterprise, but public services would in no way be improved. The government would remain an organization working from 9 to 5, whereas the private sector employee must work 18 hours a day. Try and make a bureaucrat work until 11 p.m. and see how he works. He does so unwillingly, cursing the government.

Yesterday, in a dining room, people were moaning, saying how hard it was to work there, that it did not pay enough. Then, I said: When one is not happy to work somewhere, one goes to work somewhere else. It is that simple.

Those who were crying for a job go on strike after getting it. That is how clever the system of the New Democratic Party is, anywhere.

People cry for a job, but once they get it, they go on a picket line in order not to get back to work.

Mr. Speaker, when you reach such a point, you look rather silly. And yet there is everything in plenty to supply the whole population, to help everyone, parents, young people, children; all those, the Canadian family has plenty of. What is lacking in Canada? Purchasing power and nothing else. Is there a shortage of automobiles? No. What is in short supply? Services? No. Do we lack doctors? No, we have them. Are we short of lawyers, of farmers? We have everything.

Mr. Speaker, what is lacking is purchasing power. Therefore, why not study that aspect of the problem? The