

Our present programme is one which aims at the establishment of the greatest possible measure of trade between the nations of the world. That is of more importance to Canada than it is to any other nation. It would be a tremendous and terrible mistake for our people at this stage to elect to power a party which believes that you can somehow establish a self-contained economy without rearranging the economic structure of our people.

Canada is going to occupy an important position at the peace conference. She will be one of the British commonwealth of nations; she is a nation on the American continent and will have a great influence upon the attitude the United States will take. Canada is in an influential position in regard to any attitude she may adopt. If we put into power a party that believes in a self-contained economy, a socialist economy, we shall have to get away from freer trade; we shall have a self-contained economy, the very thing that helped produce this war. In spite of all that, we have the C.C.F. party pretending that their policy will lead to an era of greater peace. I submit that their policy of a self-contained economy is one of the basic reasons for the outbreak of this war. That is one of the things that helped to put Hitler in power; it is one of the things that helped to bring about the present war.

They are proposing that Canada which must depend upon world trade should embark upon the setting up of a self-contained economy. The adoption of such a policy would be one thing that would help to destroy individual freedom in this country. Are they prepared to reorganize our people, to transfer perhaps three-quarters or two-thirds of our farmers to other industries? A number of countries in Europe endeavoured to be self-contained, and the adoption of that principle led to all the controls and interference by government officials we do not like in this country.

The issue which lies before this country in the near future is whether we want greater prosperity with more individual liberty or less prosperity with more bureaucratic control by the state; more in the way of self-contained economy and less in the way of well-being for our people. That is the great issue that will be put before the country.

The C.C.F. are to-day rejoicing in their measure of success in Saskatchewan, but I think in the near future the people of Canada, not only those of Saskatchewan and Ontario, once the issue is clear will adopt a policy by which Canada will once more be one of a family of friendly nations, one of a family

[Mr. Tucker.]

which is willing to live and let live and to provide the greatest measure of freedom to its people and the greatest possible measure of social and economic security as great as the world has ever seen.

Mr. ROBERT FAIR (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on the sixth war budget I feel that I am starting out at quite a disadvantage, because my speech like all the others I have given here is not written, nor is anything I am going to say imported. My words will be entirely my own and based on experience. So that if my speech is not up to the high standard maintained so far, do not blame me because I am doing my best.

I feel it my first duty to pay tribute to the men and women who have gone overseas to fight our battles over there and to express to the relatives and friends of those who have fallen or been seriously injured my deepest sympathy. Having done that, I turn my thoughts for a little while to the budget.

Like a good many others who listened to or read the budget speech of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilesley), I am quite disappointed in it. We were looking for great things and we have got great things in some directions, but I am sorry to say, not in the right direction. The minister has on previous occasions referred to the revenues of this country, and we must, of course, give him credit for being a very good collector, or at least a very good suggester for the other fellow to do the collecting.

I should like to refer for a moment to the \$813,000,000 of personal income tax collections. I am not in opposition to the principle of personal income tax, but I feel that it is not administered just as well and as equitably as it should be. For that reason I am opposed to the income tax as proposed in this budget. I feel that those in the lower income brackets should be relieved of much of their taxation, and I am also in favour of the compulsory savings portion of the income tax which has hitherto been in effect being continued if certain amounts of revenue have to be raised. I believe that it would be much better to maintain the compulsory savings feature and alleviate the income tax on the lower income groups. I believe that that would be much sounder and that it would accomplish the minister's ends much better.

I also believe that in the interests of this country income tax on pay for overtime should be abolished. When people work overtime they are entitled to a little breathing space so far as income tax is concerned, and with the country needing extra production the minister would be well advised to drop the income tax on overtime earnings.