

up for sale. The argument is all in favour of the lifting of rent controls as soon as possible. The labour people of Canada were the first to demand that ceilings on salaries be removed. I can appreciate that because there are more tenants than landlords it is difficult for the government to remove the rent regulations; but I believe that the sooner we get away from control in all departments, the sooner we will get back on an even keel and be ready to face whatever issues Europe may present to us.

I intend to vote in favour of the resolution.

Hon. J. J. KINLEY: Honourable senators, I wish to say a word or two arising out of the remarks of the honourable leader opposite (Hon. Mr. Haig). My honourable friend has asked why we are here. I believe that question has been asked before. We have been told that this is not a special session, but that parliament was called in December to clear away a few things so that we could get a better start in the new year. There was an agitation throughout the country to have parliament called early, and I believe it came from the same persons who are now criticizing the government for calling parliament.

There are three important matters of business now before us. The first is the charter for an international trade organization and a general agreement on tariffs and trade. That topic is now being discussed throughout the country. The second, is our dwindling reserve of American dollars—a condition for which there must be some provision. That is another matter about which the people of this country are concerned. The third question of interest involves the extension of controls which the government thinks necessary in order that we may have economic stability and progress.

Many members of parliament say that they do not agree with this or that proposed measure; but they vote for it. I believe that when one votes for something one is behind it. I think that is proof of the way in which the legislation now proposed will be received by the people. If the public look at what has been done in parliament during the past two or three years, they might well conclude that we were unanimously in favour of government proposals. Senators and members of the House of Commons have agreed with the government measures, and that they have been well received generally is established by the outcome of recent by-elections.

It appears to me that the three important pieces of legislation now before this house are complementary, and that one cannot succeed without the others. We are now in difficulties which are not of our own making. We were buying in the United States and

selling overseas. Now we must conserve and supplement our American currency by restricting unessential purchasing in the United States and endeavouring to export more to that country.

The hackneyed expression "free enterprise" has been bandied around a good deal in the past few years. I am in favour of free enterprise; but how can we have it under conditions as they now exist? There is an abundance of currency, but a shortage of materials. How can we have absolute freedom under such conditions, without allowing a few people to profit excessively at the expense of the many? If this country is to progress and have stability, we may need controls over such necessities as food, clothing and shelter. Food is the first requirement of life. Canada is a cold country, and we must have an abundance of coal. Shelter also is essential.

The honourable gentleman from Medicine Hat (Hon. Mr. Gershaw) made a fine speech the other evening in which he referred to the sending of Canadian cattle to the United States. I rather agree with the remarks of my honourable friend. The other day I saw a statement in a United States newspaper to the effect that the Americans would welcome more goods from Canada because, as a result of shortages, they have inflation, and an increased volume of goods from this country would help to reduce prices and counteract inflation. But if we export large quantities of our products to the United States, and a shortage develops in this country, what is going to happen to the prices which our people have to pay?

Hon. Mr. HORNER: How are you going to compensate the men whose cattle have been stolen from them?

Hon. Mr. KINLEY: I do not know what the honourable senator refers to when he talks about stealing cattle.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: You are a free-trader, yet you are supporting an embargo on the sale of cattle.

Hon. Mr. KINLEY: I never knew I was a free-trader. I am in favour of freer trade on a basis of reciprocity: I am willing to trade with those who will trade with me. It seems to me that we should forget about such terms as "free trade" and "protection" as applied to parties in the days gone by. Trade and tariffs are matters of economics and of scientific study, and policies in this connection should be based on the merits of the case, and should be in the interests of the country as a whole. Moreover, conditions