

*The Budget—Mr. Carroll*

and the gentleman who won the election afterwards came to this house as minister of finance in a dominion government, and a very able minister of finance he was. Still, down the years there was that same preaching amongst certain people in Nova Scotia against confederation, and it is only a very few years ago that the people of Nova Scotia made up their minds that they had enough of this stuff. They made up their minds that they were a people who would get along well in confederation, and there has been a wonderful change in the province of Nova Scotia in the last twenty or twenty-five years in that regard.

It is said that one of the results of confederation is that it took away from us our industries, our banks and so on and so forth. There was a movement of the banking institution of this country shortly after confederation, but it did not take away the banking institutions from the province of Nova Scotia. As a matter of fact, in every village, in every small town in Nova Scotia today we have branches of the various banking institutions of this country.

Then they say that it took away our industries. No, confederation had nothing to do with taking away our industries. Some industries were built in Nova Scotia before confederation. When confederation came the people who owned those industries saw that they could sell their stock in those industries, close up the industries and get their capital back, plus a splendid profit. That had nothing to do with confederation. It was the selfishness of our own people that caused this change in the industries of Nova Scotia.

Then, they talk about the days of the wooden ships and iron men. Yes, we had a wonderful shipbuilding industry in the province of Nova Scotia. The ships that were built there traded in the markets of the world, and it was a splendid outlet; but the time came when the people who were instrumental in building up these institutions, and many of them making fortunes out of them, did not have the vision, the foresight, to see that the end of wooden ships was at hand and that henceforth they would be made of steel. They did not have the vision and the foresight to see the trend of the time, of sails giving way to steam. The very first ship that crossed the Atlantic under its own steam was built in Montreal. I think it was called *Prince William*.

They put their money in their socks, or in some other place. They did not re-invest it in anything, and their children, their grand-

children and their great-grandchildren no doubt are having a fairly good time on it today.

A moment ago I mentioned those who were interested in industry in Nova Scotia selling out their industries for their own selfish purposes, because they were getting their capital expenditure plus a very good profit. The industries were taken over by competitors in the central provinces. I should like to point out to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the house, the fact that there are some industries in Nova Scotia. There were some men in Nova Scotia who were true to their province, who had the welfare of the province at heart. I have only to look across the floor of the house—and I am not sure that he is now in his seat—to see the hon. member for Colchester-Hants (Mr. Stanfield) whose father and grandfather built up in Nova Scotia one of the finest and one of the most competitive industries in Canada.

If the other people who are engaged in industry had done the same as those who were engaged in that splendid industry at Truro—and I am referring to the Stanfields—we would not be complaining today about having no industries in Nova Scotia. I am bringing those facts to your attention, Mr. Speaker, and through you to the house, to indicate to hon. members and the country that I at least do not think that confederation injured Nova Scotia. I do not think that Quebec and Ontario stole anything from us. But I do think certain people in Nova Scotia who decried confederation for years did discourage the inhabitants of that province from trying to do anything for themselves.

Something has been said in this debate about decentralization of industry; much has been said both in the east and the west about that same subject. If in Canada today we have a defence industry, then I am all for spreading it around, both to the east and to the west, when the work can be done as well and within reasonable reach of the manufacturing price in central Canada. I say that under those circumstances it should be distributed both east and west. But I for one think it is an absolutely wrong idea, an impossible idea, to urge decentralization of industry as such, outside the defence industries.

There is only one party in the house that can discuss logically this question, and that is the C.C.F. I am not saying they are right or that they are wrong. The only political party in the house whose object is to nationalize our industries is the C.C.F.—and again I am not saying they are wrong. Indeed I expressed some very bold opinions some years ago on that very subject. But they are