

taxes from those who acquire but do not themselves produce. That is his problem, to hunt out the "toll gates on the Rhine".

What a country this would be, honourable gentlemen, if when we hoist that new Canadian flag we at the same time pull down the Jolly Roger.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Let me say, honourable members, that social justice is the basis of prosperity. If we eliminate one injustice after the other, we shall in the very nature of things establish a beneficent age, without, as I have already said, the necessity of submitting our people to regimentation and the loss of their liberty through direction from above. In a country where jobs are plentiful and business is prosperous and free, people do not resort to excessive, violent measures. Injustice, with its resulting stagnation, poverty, sickness, and unhappiness—this is the thing that drives men to drastic remedies.

In closing may I quote the words of this remarkable Speech from the Throne; His Excellency the Governor General concluded his Speech with these impressive words:

May you be inspired by the vision of a better future for humanity which it is now within the power of the United Nations to create.

Hon. F. W. GERSHAW: Honourable senators, I wish first of all to compliment the mover and the seconder of the Address, and also everyone else who has contributed to this debate. Every speech up to the present moment has indeed been excellent.

Like the last speaker (Hon. Mr. Roebuck) I should like to express appreciation of the very kindly welcome that we new members have received from our colleagues and the officers of the Senate.

We have been reminded that membership in this Chamber carries with it an obligation. The honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Robertson) indicated our obligation when he spoke of our making a contribution that would in some small way compare with the contribution made by the host of young men and women of our armed forces. They have fought victoriously the greatest war of all time. We rejoice that many of them are returning from the field of battle, but we are filled with sorrow when we realize that so many of our brave men must rest forever in the land where they fell. So long as memory lasts, so long as histories are written and read, their skill and fortitude and heroism will redound to their everlasting glory.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK.

The underlying thought running through the Speech from the Throne seems to be that the Government is determined to keep up the national income, to improve the standard of living, and to maintain full employment. What I am about to say may have rather a local application, but I do believe it is one way in which in great measure these desirable purposes can be accomplished.

I should like, honourable members, to draw to your attention the fact that a great disaster has befallen the farming industry in south-eastern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan. Owing to hot winds and the lack of rainfall crops have perished, with the result that poverty and want are the only returns from a year of toil by the farmer and his family. Some families have already been reduced to such desperate straits that they have only the family allowance cheques of their children to live on. The crops harvested were so poor that hardly sufficient was recovered for seed purposes. Cattle could not be fattened and had to be sold for low prices, and cows failed to produce milk because of poor grass and lack of water. In many places even the gardens did not grow the food which is so badly needed.

Here in the East the average annual rainfall is from twenty-five to forty inches, but in the districts to which I have referred it is very much less. At a place called Empress, the centre of a farming district, the normal rainfall is 8.93 inches; this year the precipitation was only 2.31. In the Manyberries district the normal rainfall is 5.11 inches; this year they had only 3.94 inches of rain. Those of us who have lived there for some years realize that conditions are gradually getting worse, because many streams, sloughs and small lakes that were a fair size years ago are slowly drying up. Twenty years ago there was boating and duck shooting on some lakes which today are completely dried up, and the land they covered will not produce anything. Drought, however, is not new in those districts; but, as I say, the condition is getting gradually worse, and now it is evident that moisture from the sky cannot be depended upon.

Away back in 1856 the British Government, being desirous of learning more about the Northwest, issued instructions to Captain John Palliser to organize an expedition for the purpose of exploring and reporting upon the part of the Canadian West lying between the South Saskatchewan river and the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude. He got his little band of venturesome men together, and they encountered many of the difficulties and experienced many of the trials, hardships,