

*The Address—Mr. Bruneau*

socialist idea of blocked currencies, barter pacts, bilateral deals, or else, on the other hand, we must accept the domination and increasing control of our trade by our great partner on this continent.

The move taken tonight was ridiculed by the present Minister of Finance (Mr. Abbott). In my opinion it is not the correct one, nor is it sufficient. Nevertheless we will continue to offer criticism and assistance to the government on this question. This is not a problem of party politics. This is a problem on which the very existence of Canada depends. If I thought the move already taken would be adequate or sufficient I would welcome it, but it restores the status that existed before 1946; it restores the currency to where it is 90 cents to the United States dollar in 1949 after the great inflationary expansion throughout the world has taken place.

It is for that reason, among many others, that I say that the move is inadequate. It does not solve the basic problem of convertibility and still keeps the economy of Canada in the strait-jacket of exchange control.

*(Translation):*

**Mr. Raymond Bruneau (Prescott):** Mr. Speaker, may I, at the outset, congratulate the hon. members for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Boisvert) and for Vancouver South (Mr. Laing) on their eloquent contributions on the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

As a former translator of the debates of this house and of the Senate, as well as of the proceedings of the parliamentary committees, I wish, especially, to tender my most sincere compliments to the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska on the interesting and felicitous statement he has made in connection with the language we speak in this house. The French language, even though it may not be the one spoken in Paris, is nevertheless the pure language of the seventeenth century, which has immortalized Corneille, Racine and many others.

May I add, Mr. Speaker, that the matter of abolishing appeals to the privy council certainly evidences the Canadian nation's will to consecrate fully perhaps not its autonomy but surely its sovereignty. I would be tempted to repeat these words from a great Liberal leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the silver-tongued orator and former head of our great Liberal family: "I remember France who gave us life, I love England who gave us freedom, but I am bound to hold uppermost in my thoughts and turn my eyes to my Canada, my beloved country."

There is also, Mr. Speaker, the timely

proposal made by the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska in connection with a pension for disabled persons. The implementing of that suggestion would, I believe, remedy some deficiencies. I may say that since the election held on June 27, I have personally met some needy persons who, not being eligible for any other kind of pension, would at last obtain thereby some measure of relief.

*(Text):*

Mr. Speaker, with your kind permission I should like to congratulate the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Laing) and the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Boisvert) upon their eloquent speeches in the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I was pleased with the reference made by the hon. member for Vancouver South to the necessity of multilateral trade with other countries which had been referred to in the throne speech.

With that multilateral trade I feel that we shall be in position to realize the prophecy of another outstanding Liberal leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who less than fifty years ago said that while the nineteenth century was the century of progress, the century of the golden era for the United States, the twentieth century belonged to Canada. I think we have in the speech from the throne all that is necessary to realize that prophecy.

**Mr. E. G. Hansell (MacLeod):** Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to take part in this debate but I feel that all hon. members who have been here for any length of time must be rather surprised that the debate on the speech from the throne should end so abruptly. I am rather surprised that the large number of new Liberal members would not want to take advantage of the opportunity offered by this first all-inclusive debate to speak of those things of which they must feel they are obligated to their constituents to speak.

Not being particularly prepared to speak, as I had hoped to speak at a later sitting, perhaps it would be a good thing for me to take this opportunity tonight to practise my next Sunday's sermon on this congregation. Seeing the way the vote went tonight on whether or not we should do away with the means test after so many Liberals had stated in the election campaign that they were in favour of doing that, I think a suitable topic for my sermon would be: Repent ye, lest ye all likewise perish; or I might possibly take as my text: Be sure your sins will find you out.

Considering that this is the first complete day we have had in this session, considering that we have listened with interest to the leaders of the various parties and have waited