

their own affairs, for after all there is only one source of payment for all these expenditures, namely, taxes and more taxes, all of which are collected from the people.

A reference made by the honourable senator to our new province, Newfoundland, was most unfortunate, and perhaps was a slip of the tongue. I learned from my experience in another place that it does not do to make jocular remarks. I well remember making a speech there not long ago in which, after quoting from a French language newspaper in the province of Quebec, I apologized for not being able to speak French and, just as a mere aside, said I had enough difficulty learning English, without attempting to learn another language. Well, shortly afterwards I was amazed to read a letter in a British Columbia newspaper stating that the electors of my constituency had sent to Ottawa a man who could not speak the English language. Since that time I have been somewhat careful of the remarks I have made. There are no finer people in this country than the people from Newfoundland.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Reid: I have not had the pleasure of visiting that province, but I have read some of its history. I believe that its people are the last bulwark of rugged individualism. They have built up their province in the face of most adverse circumstances. During the first two hundred years of the colony's existence Great Britain put every obstacle in the way to prevent British people from settling in Newfoundland.

I have most friendly feelings toward the people of our new province, and I say to the honourable senators who come from there that we in British Columbia have many things in common with them, more perhaps than with the people of other provinces. Some people think that now we have brought Newfoundland into confederation we can forget about it. I hope we will not do that. Had Newfoundland been in confederation from its early days, the Canadian government would have spent a great deal of money to give to the people of that province things which up to the present time they have not enjoyed, and perhaps will not enjoy for some time to come.

The people of Newfoundland hold the gate of Canada on the east, and we in British Columbia guard the portal to the Pacific. I think that as time goes on it will be found that the portal on the Pacific will reach a zenith which will make it the equal of any port on the Atlantic.

The leader opposite (Hon. Mr. Haig) and some other senators have had much to say

about trade. All of us realize, of course, that no country depends more upon her trade than does Canada. The United States, with their huge resources, have a large consuming population. Canada has only thirteen and a half million people. While solutions are being suggested for our trade problems we must not forget that to date, whether we like it or not, the country to the south of us is in the driver's seat.

There is scarcely a nation in the world today which is not receiving assistance in some form from the United States. Part of our present prosperity is due to the fact that Great Britain has been able to purchase wheat and other products with Marshall Plan aid. Most countries are worried about what is going to happen when Marshall Plan aid ceases.

Perhaps what I am about to say next may displease some members of the government, but I take the position that in the interests of the people of Canada I have the right to say certain things to the government, not in a destructive critical sense, but by way of drawing their attention to certain conditions and perhaps offering some advice or assistance. I have in my hand a report of a statement made recently by the Prime Minister on the question of trade. If I am not within the rules of the house in reading it, his Honour the Speaker can stop me. The Prime Minister said:

For the good of the nation in general, we want an increase in the exports of Great Britain to ourselves . . . so that the price of these imports can be converted into dollars usable to pay for the surpluses we must continue to export to the United Kingdom.

Such distress to a few Canadian industries is something which is unfortunate and which has to be considered. We have to attempt to deal with it, but we must not attempt to deal with it in a way that would shut out such British imports from our country because they are harmful to some of our local industries.

I say, honourable senators, that Great Britain should be encouraged to send us goods such as machinery and steel, rather than textiles, towels and similar articles. The fact is well known that if Canada is flooded with textiles and towels from Great Britain many Canadian factories will be closed.

It is in this connection that I wish to draw the attention of honourable senators to what the Prime Minister had to say, and to point out what some government boards are doing to disrupt the idea which he put forward.

In passing may I point out that Canada's per capita expenditure in the United States last year was \$126, as compared with a per capita expenditure in Canada by the United States of only \$8. I emphasize the fact that