

with the problem and find a way to solve our economic and social problems in an orderly way. The day of free competition, of the open market, and of the law of supply and demand has gone, possibly forever. Great trusts, combines and monopolies in restraint of trade have been built up on these economic principles, and the abuses in this connection have brought about widespread misery and ruin to thousands of our people. As a result the greatest question in this country to-day is parliamentary and constitutional reform, cabinet reform and senate reform, especially in view of the decisions that have been quoted in this debate by lawyers inside the house and outside the house. I believe that very little progress will be made in solving our economic and social problems until we have constitutional and parliamentary reform. When I hear the learned quotations by the lawyers in this house and the recommendations of eminent lawyers outside the house, I am reminded of the words of Burke, "What shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue." Or, as Tennyson says in his *In Memoriam*:

Our little systems have their day;
They have their day and cease to be.
They are but broken lights of Thee,
And Thou, O Lord, art more than they.

No country in the world has had such little regulation of trade and commerce as Canada. Look at only one section of the British North America Act, section 91, dealing with the powers of parliament, included in which is the power to regulate trade and commerce. That field has been unexplored ever since confederation; it is a no man's land. Section 91 of the British North America Act which defines the powers of this parliament, says "for greater certainty but not so as to restrict the generality of the foregoing terms of this section, it is hereby declared that (notwithstanding anything in this act) the exclusive legislative authority of the parliament of Canada extends to all matters coming within the classes of subjects next hereinafter enumerated," and the second subject mentioned is "the regulation of trade and commerce." Paragraph 27 of section 91 gives this parliament power to deal with the criminal law, except the constitution of courts of criminal jurisdiction, but including the procedure in criminal matters, and the last paragraph of that section gives this parliament power to deal with the following classes of subjects:

And any matter coming within any of the classes of subjects enumerated in this section shall not be deemed to come within the class

of matters of a local or private nature comprised in the enumeration of classes of subjects by this act assigned exclusively to the legislatures of the provinces.

But there has been no effort to see or take advantage of this exclusive power, the regulation of trade and commerce by this parliament. That field, as I say, has been unexplored; it is a no man's land. No country has so little regulation of trade and commerce as Canada, although this parliament has exclusive jurisdiction over that subject. Compare Canada with the United States and Great Britain. The United States has the Clayton Act; the anti-Sherman law, the federal trade commission; regulations by the Secretary of Commerce; newspaper identity regulation; the Interstate Commerce Commission regulation. The legislation of the parliament of England is larger than that of any other country in the world. Yet they have national boards or councils regulating transportation, coal mining, transport, agriculture, the marketing of bacon and eggs and many other products with compulsory powers and beyond even the regulation or control of any court of law. In England, so much so that the Macdonald-Baldwin government are called by some people a soviet one in parliament, we talk about too much government in business, yet the big interests themselves are clamoring for government intervention. Had it not been for the government's intervention and help I do not know what would have happened to some of them. In view of the evidence that was given before the mass buying commission the people back home are demanding that an end be put to the legalized injustices and tyrannies of modern capitalism in Canada, to the detriment of bona fide and legitimate private enterprise.

Private enterprise which brings all ranks of society together into personal contact whether in large enterprises or in small, one-man business or enterprises or in retail business—all these in Canada are in harmony with natural law. Great trusts, combines and restraints of trade are not in Canada but are mostly directed by big financiers and politicians. They in Canada are in effect an application in practice of nothing else but the communist principle. Let us not forget then the injustices and tyrannies which so-called modern capitalism has inflicted on thousands of the men, women and children and poor people of Canada.

Let us keep that objective in mind and cease talking constitutional questions about the British North America Act. The time