

heard it said time and again that the automobile is the greatest machine of the age. With this I agree in part, if not entirely. That it is a great machine I will not deny, an invention that can be and is used for many good and useful purposes. It has been purchased at a tremendous cost to the Canadian and the American people. That is one side of the picture. But there is another side. Without fear of contradiction I make the statement that the automobile has been the greatest waster of time and money—

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: —and the greatest agency of crime that has ever emanated from the mind of man.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Amen!

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: Are we going to prevent the production of automobiles? Not by any means. Let those who wish them have them, particularly those who can pay for them. And if people can get them without paying for them, so far as I am concerned they also may have them.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: I know something about Western Canada, for I have lived longer in that part of the country, perhaps, than any other member of this Chamber or any member of the House of Commons, with the possible exception of one man who was born there—and he cannot be blamed for that. I know that the purchase of automobiles at the extravagant prices asked by the manufacturers and paid by the people in days gone by has tended more than anything else to place the people of Western Canada in the position that they occupy to-day. In passing let me remark that they have nobody to blame but themselves. We hear people speaking of the causes of the depression, and of this and of that, until they finally come around and focus the blame upon the Government. The Government is not to blame. I am not here to defend the present Government, and I do not want to be understood as doing so; but I want to make it clear that, after all, the position in which people find themselves to-day is largely due to themselves and not to the Government, no matter what party may be in power to-day or may come into power to-morrow.

In this country we have legalized things of which I am ashamed. I have mentioned two. One is prohibition and the other is the automobile, both of which have brought some of the best families of this country to the greatest depths of degradation ever known.

We also have legalized divorce in this country, as we have a right to do, and our divorce law is fairly administered; but I for one, honourable gentlemen, think it is a shame and a scandal that in this country, the fairest in the universe, there should be such a thing. I cannot change it, however, and therefore shall make no particular effort to do so. But, in view of the prohibition laws of the past and the divorce law of the present, let no man tell me that the enactment of a law which would permit a poor man to invest one dollar in a lottery would make him a criminal.

One thing I had forgotten. I should have congratulated, as I will now do from the bottom of my heart, the honourable member from Victoria (Hon. Mr. Barnard), who has been manly enough, and big enough, and has had sand enough, although beaten once, to bounce up again and reintroduce this Bill. I congratulate also the honourable member from Vancouver (Hon. Mr. McRae), who made a fight for this Bill last year, and who resumed his seat only a moment ago, after making a most manly fight again at this present session. We do not sit on the same side of the House, and never will, so far as I am concerned—

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: Nevertheless, I can see merit in the other fellow. I am big enough for that. I may say also that I have seen some petty things done, in days gone by, by some people who were associated with me politically.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: The honourable member from Parkdale (Hon. Mr. Murdock) very eloquently opposed this Bill the other evening, and took as the basis of his remarks a letter from the Social Service Council. Unfortunately, for the moment, I cannot read, but that letter was read to me when it first arrived, and I may say that the second reading, by the honourable member from Parkdale, did not improve the case one bit. I want to say to the Social Service Council, and to the signer of the letter, the Reverend Mr. Jones, with whom I am not acquainted—and whose acquaintance I will not seek for the moment—

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: —that I am first, last and always a Canadian of Irish extraction, and I am not going to take any dictation from the Social Service Council of Canada or any other organization that exists in this