

preferred, and Massey-Harris? What was the situation with regard to these three stocks? Here are the market quotations:

	Bid	Asked
Canada machinery preferred.. . . .	\$15	\$20
Cockshutt plough preferred.. . . .	41	45
Massey-Harris..	63	66

Now I ask hon. gentlemen and the people of this country, how in face of those preferred stocks not paying any dividends are you going to reduce the price of the output of those concerns to the people who buy? Are not the widow and the orphan and the business man who have their capital invested in those industries entitled to a reasonable return on their money? If these quotations are sound, and the record proves they are sound, those industries were not paying dividends. How, then, can the price of the commodity be lowered save by an increased demand, and here comes in the argument of supply and demand. Demand is based upon a greater buying power. There are only two ways in which you can have greater buying power in this country or in any other. One is when Providence smiles upon us. Then by reason of the good crops raised from the soil, through agriculture generally and all the various things connected with it, we are able to get production out of mother earth. That increases buying power. The other way, is to give such an impetus to the industrial life of this country as to provide men and women with work, and work at a proper wage. Those are the two ways, and the only two ways, in which this country or any other can increase its buying power.

When I saw the Hon. Vincent Massey endeavouring to get into this House, I asked myself this question: Here is his company not paying any dividends, with 63 bid and 66 asked for its stock; its stock is selling away below par; what does he expect to get by a seat in the government? I think the country has asked itself that very same question, and I presume, Sir, the answer is what I saw in one of the papers the other day, namely, that some \$600,000 had found its way into that firm through reparations secured from Germany, and I was moved to ask, why was preferential treatment given to that particular firm? Why single out this firm from the hundreds who have their accounts pending for settlement? I suppose probably if we have a recess and the Hon. Mr. Massey attempts to find a seat in Regina, the western farmers will be told that if he is elected agricultural implements will be sold at below cost.

Now I come to the point I mentioned a moment ago, the rise in the market price of industrial and bank stocks, which the cabinet ministers and private members of this House have quoted. I am led, and I fancy the House is led, to ask: What significance, after all, is there in the rise of those stocks? It is true that certain bank stocks in this country—and goodness knows that if it were not true that some stocks in this country were of value we would be in a bad way indeed—have increased in price, but every hon. gentleman that I have listened to in this House seems to me to have confused the terms “market price” and “value.” There is a mighty difference between the two. They do not mean the same thing at all, and the fact that we have some two or three or four or five stocks in this country rising in value is no indication at all that the country is prosperous. The market price of a certain railway stock in the United States went up once to over \$600, but the actual value of that stock based on the earning power of the railway was only slightly over par. What then is the reason for the rise in the price of certain bank and leading industrial stocks in this country? Demand upon the part of the public is the reason for that increase in price, and why the demand? The answer to that is the word fear, fear on the part of capital to invest in that large body of Canadian industrial stocks because the risk was too excessive. That is the reason you have the demand for these bank stocks throughout the country. It is no evidence of prosperity. Hon. gentlemen in this House quote the speeches made by leaders of business in this country to their board of directors, but if you will examine those speeches you will find little else than this, that those leading business men express the hope that we have reached the bottom, that with the magnificent crop which has put some millions of dollars into circulation we are on the up grade. But I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that if you are at the very bottom of the pit and make the first step up, although you may legitimately say that you are on the up grade, you may still be a very long way from the top. Every business man in this country, everyone who has been concerned with the flotation of a new industry, knows how difficult it has been to secure capital in the last four or five years, even for re-financing businesses where the risk was far below normal. So while a rise in half a dozen stocks indicates confidence in them, it is by no means a conclusive evidence of prosperity, and in Canada, as I said before, it is no evi-