

The Prime Minister has said much about the horrors of economic nationalism and the wickedness of tariffs.

—the imposition of quotas and prohibitions, and other signs of growing economic belligerency between the nations in the interwar period, were not the result of stupidity nor ill will but were, on the contrary, imposed for most compelling reasons. They represented attempts by the nations to defend themselves against very real and pressing dangers.

The Prime Minister and the united nations authorities must remove this danger before they talk for a moment about removing trade barriers. I read on:

The chamber is convinced that until those dangers are recognized and removed, a direct attack upon trade barriers can serve no useful purpose but will, on the contrary, merely increase fear.

I do not feel I have the right to impose upon the house any further, but I will say that when hon. members read those two pamphlets through, and digest them, they will find that the policies advocated therein conform exactly to social credit—without any deviation at all. The expression "social credit" is not used, but they conform exactly to its proposals. They point out how purchasing media should be created by the state to be spent into circulation and to distribute the surplus of goods which the state can produce. They point out the way in which prices can be controlled by exercising the power of creating purchasing media. They point out how the underprivileged people, about whom we are having all this discussion, can be taken care of by the use of some of the purchasing media which the state is able to produce in abundance. I commend these to the committee and to the government as a first step toward the solution of our problems, the only solution which will give hope to mankind.

As these people point out, this device can be applied by one nation alone. That is one of the admirable things about it. Perhaps I can take the time to read one statement in the last part of the report. I quote from page 12, as follows:

These proposals also have the merit that

(a) whilst revolutionary in effect, they involve, so far as industry and commerce are concerned, little change in practice;

No government ownership, no government regimentation, no socialism, no disruptive change; just the exercising of the government's prerogative to create a purchasing medium. I continue:

(b) they require the minimum of agreement between nations;

No united nations and no taking away of the sovereignty of any nation! I continue:

[Mr. Blackmore.]

(c) they can be put into effect even though some nations withhold agreement.

Mr. ANGUS MacINNIS (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to read the pamphlet the hon. member for Lethbridge (Mr. Blackmore) has suggested we should read. Anything that proposes to change things and then leave them as they are, will just not change things. That is exactly what he has read from that pamphlet. Any scheme that will leave the ownership and control of the means of life in the hands of the people who own them now and expect that by some sort of witchcraft the underprivileged will be looked after by the people who never looked after them before does not appeal to me.

Mr. BLACKMORE: But they are going to be looked after; that is the important thing.

Mr. MacINNIS: That is what will not be done. The underprivileged will continue to be underprivileged until they own and control the means by which they live. That is the philosophy of the group to which I belong. We welcome the motion introduced by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) for the setting up of this committee, because it recognizes, even at this late date, the obligation of the community, or, if you like, the obligation of the state to make provision for the underprivileged within the state. The motion is quite simple, and I suppose it will constitute the terms of reference for the committee. It reads:

To examine and study the existing social insurance legislation of the parliament of Canada and of the several provincial legislatures; social insurance policies of other countries; the most practicable measures of social insurance for Canada, including health insurance, and the steps which will be required to effect their inclusion in a national plan; the constitutional and financial adjustments which will be required for the achievement of a nation-wide plan of social security; and other related matters.

That puts the case as I see it very clearly. I am glad that the group to which I belong has chosen the hon. member for Melfort (Mr. Wright) and myself to be their representatives on the committee. We hope the committee will be able in the course of time to formulate a plan of social insurance for the people of Canada. We are not, however, deluding ourselves by believing that any scheme of social insurance will eliminate poverty. Poverty in the Dominion of Canada can be eliminated only when we release the means of production within the country from the restrictions imposed upon them by the profit motive. After we have done that it will be quite easy to find the means to distribute the wealth of the country among the people of the country