

The opposition leader was critical of the export credit policy. This year, we are being asked to dig into our pockets for \$2,700,000,000 of taxes and in addition to go into debt another billion dollars—what for? Not to buy things for ourselves, but—think of it!—to pay for our own exports to ship away to other countries. We can never have permanent prosperity in this country by continuing to pay out of our own pockets for our exports to other lands.

The member for Rosedale (Mr. Jackman) the other day likened the Minister of Finance to John Bunyan's Mr. Facing-Both-Ways. May I suggest that he might have found a better example for that description a little nearer home. If I may continue with some more of these "economy" measures, Mr. Speaker, and I quote:

To make these rights real and effective, we shall establish a national development board to include leaders of business, labour, agriculture and government. The board will have the responsibility of working out plans for full production and employment as well as the preservation of our natural resources and the construction of projects in the public interest.

When I read that I almost thought I was reading a part of the C.C.F. manifesto. Under the same heading, that of workers, I read:

We shall provide a uniform and comprehensive security plan for all Canadians, including: extended unemployment insurance coverage; accident and sickness benefits; children's allowances; maternity benefits; widows' benefits; retirement pensions; increased old age pensions at age 65.

And may I interject here that in a speech at Kenora, and elsewhere as well, the leader of the opposition indicated that what he and his party advocated was an increased pension of \$30, payable at the age of 65, without a means test, to all Canadians. My information is that that would involve an additional expenditure of at least \$300,000,000 a year.

An hon. MEMBER: If we had an agreement with the provinces.

Mr. ABBOTT: He did not refer to that in the course of his speech, nor did he refer to it anywhere in this charter.

Mr. KNOWLES: Are you opposed to that?

Mr. ABBOTT: Never mind whether I am opposed to it or not; at the moment I am dealing with the proposals of the official opposition as set out by them in this document. To continue:

Where social services are administered provincially, we shall provide grants large enough to ensure adequate standards of social security to all Canadians.

I pause here to interject that while there has been no official statement by any member of the official opposition in this regard, many of my Conservative friends have stated to me that all these social security measures are so

much nonsense, that they are not in favour of them, and that the sooner we get rid of them the better. They are sincere and genuine in that belief. I do not question their right to express their opinion on that point, but I would appreciate it if their spokesman in the House of Commons would be equally frank.

Mr. GREEN: Was that down on St. James street?

Mr. ABBOTT: Yes, some of it was on St. James street. Then, with regard to a national health programme, this statement appears:

Therefore, pending the setting up of this national health programme, we will make grants to all the provinces according to standards and in amounts to be agreed upon, so that they may work out health programmes of their own.

Then further:

In cooperation with the provinces, we will set up a dominion-wide farm rehabilitation and soil conservation plan. We will reestablish a natural products marketing act. We will appoint a board of live stock commissioners in which shall be vested power to regulate and direct all aspects of live stock marketing in somewhat the same manner as the board of grain commissioners regulates the handling of wheat.

Then with regard to the fishermen:

We pledge ourselves: to enact legislation to assure our fishermen adequate basic prices.

Again:

Establishing an export board to ensure a fair price to Canadian exporters of natural products and manufactured goods.

Then, a further proposal:

Encouraging great expansion in the fields of industrial and scientific research, supported at every stage by financial aid from the dominion government.

Under the heading of natural resources there appears this:

Our policy will be based upon the principle of managing, developing and conserving our natural resources so as to achieve the greatest possible annual return from them consistent with their preservation as a continuing source of wealth for future generations. To this end we will make provision for generous financial assistance from the dominion to the provinces to aid them in planned development and conservation.

Mr. FULTON: A thing you failed to do.

Mr. ABBOTT: Passing over the question of abolishing the fee for radio licences, because that was part of Doctor Manion's platform too, I come to the following:

This party will see that the financial resources of the dominion will be used in the clearing of slums and to provide subsidized housing for those in the lowest income group. We will initiate a large-scale housing programme to supply the new homes so urgently needed throughout Canada. For that purpose we will enlist the cooperation of the provinces, the municipalities, the building trades, the construction industry and private investors.