

*The Address—Mr. Tremblay*

That is one of the undying principles of Canadian liberalism, and the most outstanding disciple of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the right honourable the present Prime Minister, was not unmindful of it, in announcing measures that will safeguard the freedom of the weak against the usurpations of the powerful and the strong.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully submit that if the public powers are to check the greed of monopolistic interests, they must not themselves take over legitimate concerns.

As a matter of fact while rejecting economic liberalism, I am just as much opposed to those socialistic theoreticians who would establish a new order by a process of general levelling. Adopting the erroneous views of one theory would not cure the evils of the other. There is a group here advocating socialistic utopias. They affirm, in their conferences and conventions "that agricultural lands are and should remain national property" (Annual Conference of the British Labour Party, May, 1942). They proclaim that the Canadian farmer who, in his earliest youth, has courageously hewn his farm out of the virgin forest, is not entitled to leave it to his sons when, aged by prolonged and strenuous labour and feeling the weight of years, he has not enough strength left to pursue his appointed task (Excerpt from a statement of policy of the C.C.F., at Saskatoon, July 26, 1934).

They still further state, to hide their true designs, "that they do not intend to proceed to a general expropriation of farm lands already settled" adding that "not a single parcel of land will be granted to a private owner when they are in power." God grant that this may never come to pass! (Excerpt from the text book of the C.C.F. "Social Planning for Canada," page 259.)

Let them compete to their hearts' content in exaggerating the failure of economic liberalism and endeavour to drag our citizens on the still more slippery and more dangerous slopes of socialism, which inevitably lead to communism and bolshevism; it is all in vain, and I may state to the house and to the whole of Canada that the noisy and impassioned appeals of the Canadian socialist group will never influence the beautiful and sound type of Canadian, the farmer of Dorchester, the habitant of Quebec.

If the right honourable the present Prime Minister has always enjoyed and still enjoys the support of old Quebec, it is because such qualities as fairness, broadmindedness, moderation, tolerance and Canadianism of the purest vintage, which are among his characteristics,

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are equally possessed by the people of the province of Quebec. All Canadians, after four years of war under the King government, have every reason to know that their affairs are well looked after. The many beneficial measures alluded to in the speech from the throne will receive, from the various sections of the country, the enthusiastic approval they deserve, for their adequateness is understood by all and they fulfill the wishes of our people.

It is my privilege, in this house, to represent a typically Canadian constituency. Indeed, Dorchester in inhabited by the four nationalities that have, more than any, contributed to the formation of the Canadian people. In our hearts, Canadians of English, Scottish, Irish and French descent live as neighbours, esteem one another, fraternize together and, who would believe it, go so far as to love one another and set up happy homes. They are all true Canadians. Even though they retain, as they should, the strong ties that bind them to their country of origin, none the less, they are bound by all the fibres of their soul to Canada, which occupies, indubitably and irrevocably, the first place in their affections.

I am proud to proclaim that racial prejudice is not to be found in Dorchester, where every one entertains for his neighbours the consideration and esteem due to his fellow-citizens. The great majority of my constituents are farmers, the most peace-loving of citizens, who cherish their land, families, church and country. They work hard from morning till night and, since Canada has called her sons to the defence of their homes and families, they have increased their efforts to fill the growing demands for their crops. Many of their sons and daughters have answered the call to arms, and, unfortunately, a number of them will never see their homes again; those who remain labour and pray, hoping for the day of victory. We may well call them "Our own good people."

These excellent folk, Mr. Speaker, ask no privileges and hope for no favours. All they require and expect from their government is fair consideration and the share that legitimately belongs to them. They are glad to notice that once again, the present government has shown its interest in the farmers by introducing legislation to guarantee that they will enjoy fair prices for their products after the war.

During the present war, the government has very wisely established a price control organization to fix on certain products, a ceiling which could not be exceeded under severe penalties. Such a control was evidently necessary to avoid inflation. The farmer has not complained but has willingly submitted to