

Men everywhere are asking the question: Why, if there is no lack of work in war time, is work not to be had at a time when men, instead of devoting themselves to the work of destruction, might enjoy the fruits of their labour?

I believe the war is teaching us that the obstacles to full employment were not real obstacles; that a partnership of management, of workers and of the community can make useful work available in time of peace no less than in time of war for all who need or want to work.

Mr. SMITH (Calgary West): Is that all the one quotation?

Mr. MacINNIS: Yes, it is a complete excerpt. I, too, at one time thought the war would teach us something, but looking at what is happening in this house today I fear that the war has not taught us anything. I fear that we are intent on going back to those conditions which left such tragic results in their wake in the ten years before the war.

The Minister of Justice (Mr. Ilesley), in replying to criticism of this bill, did not take much time with the point of view of this party. As a matter of fact I think he put it all in one short sentence, when he said, I think on Thursday last:

The trouble with the C.C.F.'s position is that it seems to assume that controls will be possible indefinitely under our constitution.

The C.C.F. does not assume anything of the kind. The C.C.F. realizes that controls are not made just for the Dominion of Canada but that the controls have benefited the provinces as well as the people of the Dominion, for, of course, they are the same people. There may have been cases, but I have not heard of any province asking this government to relinquish its price control policy. There may have been such requests from the provinces, and if there have been they have not come to my attention. We believe that, with proper cooperation between the Dominion and the provinces, a policy will have to be worked out so that the people can in peace as well as in war, provide themselves with the good things of life. But there is no hope at all that that can be done under a free economy.

I should like to quote a news item that appeared in the *Christian Science Monitor* of March 18, 1947:

Edwin G. Nourse, chairman of the federal economic council, said yesterday the removal of wartime controls alone cannot restore sound relationship of wages, prices and profits in this day of big corporations, banks and labour unions.

I think that is quite true. Today we have not small economic units competing with each other in the economic field and having approximately equal strength. Instead, we

have large aggregations of economic power, economic power both in industry itself and in labour unions. I continue the quotation:

"Under these conditions of business organization, the process is not one of impersonal competitive market or system of markets," he said in an address for the controllers institute of America.

"Over large areas of the economy, prices and the course of business are determined by highly personalized administrative decisions made by officials of business organizations and affecting large blocks of capital resources or labour resources. I think it is quite clear to everyone that the decisions of these responsible executives have not, since V-J day, mutually added up to anything like a workable solution of the nation's business problems in terms of well sustained production and the prosperity that goes with it."

I think that is the experience in Canada. I do not think anyone can say that business organizations in Canada are working up to anything that will add up to a long continued period of steady employment and full production. Indeed, everyone you talk to is expecting a depression, some within six months, some within a year, some within two years. All are expecting a depression under our present system.

I am now going to show what happens when controls are removed. On May 1, 1946, the wartime prices and trade board suspended its allocation and price control on newsprint in the Canadian market. I am told that the decontrol took place after discussion with the newsprint manufacturers and publishers. Under the agreement or understanding arrived at existing Canadian customers were to receive not less than the individual quotas established on January 1, 1946, which was about seven per cent of the total Canadian production, or approximately 17,500 tons out of 247,500 tons. No provisions were made to supply new customers. I am told that a cooperative publishing company in a Canadian city, which has upwards of ten thousand members and wants to get newsprint to start publishing a paper, cannot get it, although Canada is exporting a great deal, as a matter of fact, exporting all we produce except about seven per cent.

In my own city of Vancouver there are an estimated ten thousand citizens who cannot buy the paper of their choice because the publishers of that paper cannot buy the newsprint to supply their demand, and yet there is plenty of newsprint even in Vancouver. The president of the Sun Publishing Company Limited, Vancouver, British Columbia, in the annual report of his company had the following to say in regard to newsprint:

The newsprint shortage is our greatest problem. The present concrete demand for unsolicited *Sun* subscriptions is estimated at 10,000.