

Mr. ABBOTT: The facts speak for themselves. The hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario (Mr. Macdonnell), who is the financial critic for the opposition, reproached the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) when he rose to speak after the minister had completed his budget address for not using the word "economy" in the course of his speech. I hold in my hand an extract from the *Montreal Gazette* of May 16, 1945. It is entitled, "Bracken's Charter for a Better Canada." It reads:

The following is the text of a declaration of policy for the Progressive Conservative party, by John Bracken, as given in a speech delivered in Ottawa, last evening, in the Glebe collegiate auditorium.

I have been through this statement carefully, and if I may paraphrase the remarks of the hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario, I have been unable to find any use of the word "economy" in that impressive document. But I do find a great many references to proposals which would involve substantial expenditures of public money. If I may, I should like to state a few of those to the house.

Mr. GREEN: What date is that?

Mr. ABBOTT: This is dated May 16, and it is apparently the text of an address delivered the night before by the leader of the opposition (Mr. Bracken) in the Glebe collegiate auditorium in Ottawa.

An hon. MEMBER: An election speech.

Mr. ABBOTT: Yes. I quote:

Members of the armed forces, except at their own request, will not be demobilized until they have jobs at proper rates of pay. On the basis of this policy the first-in-first-out principle will apply.

Then follows a long list of suggestions for increased payments to veterans, which I may say have been more than implemented, so far as I have been able to see, by legislation either now before the house or to be brought before the house within a few days. Under the heading "Youth of the Nation" this text states:

To broaden opportunity, we will encourage through grants the development in our secondary schools of specialized training for primary industries such as agriculture, mining, forestry and fisheries. We will provide financial assistance to enable our young people, according to their abilities, to receive advanced technical or professional training in our universities, at home or abroad.

Some expenditure involved there.

Mr. JACKMAN: Would you not expect more production if you had them trained?

Mr. ABBOTT: I am talking about expenditures at the moment.

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

Mr. JACKMAN: If you have more production your taxation brings in more.

Mr. ABBOTT: The report continues:

We believe in and will encourage a nationally uniform system of recreation and cultural centres. These will be extended to the rural areas through assistance in the erection of community centres.

Then under the heading of "International Trade":

A general overhaul of the Department of Trade and Commerce to convert it from a junior and unnecessary arm of the diplomatic service to a live department responsible for organizing, with exporters themselves, the sale of Canadian goods in the markets of the world.

Mr. HAZEN: Is there anything wrong with that?

Mr. ABBOTT: Not a thing, except that it involves expenditure. I do not quarrel with any of these; my point is that they all involve expenditure. I continue:

The establishment under the auspices of and at the expense of the department of training courses for young war veterans to become salesmen of Canadian goods in foreign countries.

The establishment of an export board with power and authority to determine and pay whatever difference may exist between a fair Canadian price and the actual world market price on approved items of export selected with a view to maintaining a balanced Canadian economy.

In other words, export subsidies. Here is one to which I should like especially to draw the attention of the house:

We recognize that in the period of adjustment after the war there must be a continuation of the principle of "mutual aid." Further, we recognize that in order that world trade (so essential to Canada's welfare) may expand, it will be necessary for Canada as a surplus producing country, and a large exporter, to give a lead in stabilization of international trade. In addition, Canada must be prepared to give long-term trade credits to Britain and also, in proper cases, to devastated and economically backward countries—thus building up customers for our goods.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. ABBOTT: I am glad to hear hon. gentlemen say "Hear, hear". When I read that statement, and when I recalled the speech made by the hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario at the time the loan to Britain was before the house, I was astounded to read a statement which appeared in the *Montreal Gazette* yesterday, Thursday, July 11, 1946. My hon. friend the leader of the opposition has not yet spoken in this debate, but he made a speech over the radio the other night and this is what he said as reported by the *Gazette*, the reporter being Mr. Mears: