

The Address—Mr. Low

the democracies will not tolerate a repetition of the dirty thirties. What will the "Big Bear" be doing while we are floundering in the morass of trade stagnation, unemployment and breadlines that might follow that sort of deflation? It would be easy for me to venture a guess on what he might be doing.

This leads me to the sixth conclusion. Some students of world affairs see in this whole business a move to discredit the pound and make the dollar the undisputed master of the world. This may or may not be so, but I am inclined to believe it is. One thing is certain, and that is that for too many years now the world has witnessed a conflict between the manipulators of the two systems of currency, the dollar system and the pound sterling system. Millions of people in many countries throughout the world have suffered needlessly as a result of that conflict.

Surely, it must be evident to all thinking people that in international trade the important thing to our country, as to all other countries, is to succeed in getting the surplus Canadian goods in the hands of people in other countries who need and want them, and to bring back into Canada the surplus goods from those other countries which Canadians want and are prepared and able to buy. No currency war should be allowed to interfere with this normal and natural process. No currency manipulations can prevent just, successful, and mutually satisfactory exchanges of goods and services internationally, provided the worship of gold and the almighty dollar, as well as the power that goes with it, is replaced by a sincere and honest desire in the hearts of men to love their neighbours as themselves.

I urge the government of this country in the next week or two while this serious crisis exists—it might last longer than that—to use the utmost caution in meeting the situation which they are facing. Britain's action, I presume, will force Canada to devalue if we are to be able successfully to meet the competition of such countries as Australia and the other countries that have already followed Britain's lead. Canada should not take sides in the currency war by championing either currency. Rather, I think, it is Canada's duty to take the lead in an effort to achieve a happy world of honest trading relationship, even if it might involve completely by-passing the present currency requirements. Surely, sir, goods balances are more important, and more tradeable for that matter, than are money balances.

At this stage I am led to remark that we in this corner of the house are prepared to assist the Prime Minister and the government in any worthy moves that they make to improve conditions for the people of this country.

[Mr. Low.]

We do warn the government that we shall fight with all our might any tendency towards restricting the freedoms of the people of this country through the government's efforts to be fatherly or paternal in their attitude towards the people of this country. We will not be found carping in our criticisms. We hope that the government will allow us the same privileges we have had in the past of expressing our views as a group, but we are not asking for any special privileges. We of the Social Credit party will continue to work for the freedom of the people. We shall continue to explore and to advocate every means of achieving in Canada a national economy based on individual enterprise in which the production of all wanted goods and services is kept at the highest level required to satisfy the needs of the Canadian people; in which the distribution machinery provides for the equitable distribution of our total production; in which the cycles of booms and depressions are eliminated through the use of sensible financial policies; in which every individual is afforded the opportunity to obtain the highest possible level of social security and is accorded the maximum degree of personal freedom; and in which justice is as readily accessible to the poor as to the rich. Those are the things for which we stand. Those things it is our determination to help bring into our fair country.

Mr. T. L. Church (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, for a few moments this afternoon I should like to call a few matters to the attention of the house and the country. In the first place I want to congratulate the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) on the victory he achieved. After all is said and done, I am one of those who believe that the people should rule, and the people have given their decision. I also want to compliment the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew). I have known him longer, I think, than anybody else in the house has. I have always looked upon him as a sportsman more than a politician. I am not a politician myself, never have been one, and do not claim to be one. I am more of a sportsman than a politician. I came into this house just for three or four purposes. I congratulate the younger members of the house, a large number of whom come from the province of Quebec. I have always had a high admiration for the people of that great province. I believe that the house and the country would be far better off if we had more men coming up from the municipalities to this parliament. I also want to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on the high office you occupy. You have been well equipped for it. Your diligence and zeal not only as a lawyer but as chairman of committees and Deputy Speaker have fitted you well for the post you