

*The Address—Mr. Low*

the official definition of socialism, together with a detailed statement of its short-range and its long-range objectives.

I say that because I believe that the Canadian people are entitled to have them and would be keenly interested in having them. I say at once that such things may now be in circulation but if they are I have not seen them. Let me remind the hon. member for Vancouver East that socialists are not the only advocates of co-operation. Every political movement in Canada has at one time or another advocated co-operation in one form or another, but in my judgment the only co-operation that has ever yielded any good fruit so far as human welfare is concerned is that which springs voluntarily from the heart of a generous lover of his fellow man.

Compelled co-operation is dictatorship of course, and it can further be said with truth that co-operation alone will not solve the problem of distribution because it would be powerless against the kind of financial dictatorship which has made it impossible for private enterprise to distribute equitably the vast production that has been achieved in this country and in other so-called free enterprise countries.

My friend from Vancouver East is also in error when he says that Christ taught co-operation and not competition. My friend forgets the powerful and pointed parable of the talents wherein the Master recognized the profit motive as a natural human urge. Christ taught co-operation of course but not to the exclusion of competition by any means. The Master taught the worth of the individual, that all organizations of society should exist to serve him and to provide for him opportunities to develop and perfect his personality. At no time did He ever imply or teach that the individual human being must live submerged in a collective society or a regimented group. Christ taught respect for private property and advocated the ten commandments, especially the eighth, "Thou shalt not steal", as a fundamental safeguard for the property rights of all men.

God taught that the right of title to property was the very basis of an individual human being's personal sovereignty. The Master taught respect for the God-given gift of free agency. He drove the money changers out of the temple and encouraged fair and equitable distribution of the abundance that the earth can yield so that all can live in security and without fear. These Christian teachings, amongst others, Social Credit aims to translate into policies of good government by soliciting and inducing the co-operation of

men and women of good will to do the job. Therein lies our philosophy which the hon. member for Vancouver East says we have not got. We have developed a set of policies based on these Christian principles, a copy of which I have with me tonight and which I am going to send to the hon. member for Vancouver East with my compliments so that from now on he will be informed and will not again say that Social Credit has no policy.

It is easy to say things of that kind but it is not wise for any of us to speak from prejudice. Prejudice is a great time saver. I will admit that it enables one to form opinions without bothering to get the facts. I am just trying to help the hon. member for Vancouver East to get the facts. We stand unaltered and unshaken in support of the private enterprise system that has done so much for this and every other country that has let it do so, and we have a marvellous country. No one can gainsay that, and I just wanted to make it clear that because of the fact so many people have misused and misinterpreted and are misusing and misinterpreting the terms "free enterprise" and "free competition" we felt it was desirable to suggest that our interpretation of the meaning of those terms would be what I have given in the part of my speech I have made thus far.

The second portion of our amendment, which I shall move without much delay, deals with trade. It is not my intention to go into any great detail at this time because I presume some of my colleagues will be speaking on our amendment and will doubtless deal with trade and matters associated therewith. But I do want to say that we are in substantial agreement with that part of the Conservative amendment which deals with trade. Our great need today from one end of Canada to the other is markets for our primary products, markets, let me emphasize, in countries where our products are needed and wanted. There is nothing more frustrating to our producers than to be hooked to a market that is as uncertain as the United States market. We do not advocate that we cease trading with the United States. We want to trade with our great neighbour but our past experience teaches us that we can never count on the stability or continuity of that market, especially for our agricultural production. The economy of the United States is too much like our own to furnish our best and most stable market for agricultural production because all too often the farmers down there have surpluses of the same things that we have up here. But I say again that we want to trade with them. Of course we do.