

*Government Monetary Policy*

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** Will he tell us what socialist planning has done for employment in the province of Saskatchewan, and for the growth and development of that province?

**Mr. Argue:** Unemployment is lower than in any other part of Canada.

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** What about the population growth?

**Mr. Herridge:** My answer to that question is that the present C.C.F. or socialist government was elected in Saskatchewan in 1944 and it has been re-elected by the people of Saskatchewan continually to date. I cannot take the time to go into detail.

**Mr. Argue:** At the last election no Tory member was elected.

**Mr. Herridge:** That is a good point. The people have not elected a single Progressive Conservative in recent years.

**An hon. Member:** And they will not do so in the next federal election.

**Mr. Herridge:** In reply to the hon. gentleman, Mr. Speaker, I would say that our policies have had a greater appeal to the people of Saskatchewan than have the policies of the party to which he belongs.

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** What have they done for the development of the province?

**Mr. Herridge:** I leave that matter entirely to the people of Saskatchewan.

**Mr. Henderson:** The people of Saskatchewan—

**Mr. Argue:** Tell the hon. member for Cariboo to sit down.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rea):** Order. Will the hon. member for Kootenay West continue?

**Mr. Herridge:** I rather enjoy these interruptions, Mr. Speaker. I did not hear what the hon. member for Cariboo just said but I suppose it was not of great importance.

**Mr. Winch:** If he does not listen he will not be back after the next election, much as I like him.

**Mr. Herridge:** As I said, I am dealing with the fact that we believe there is an opportunity for legitimate private enterprise or free enterprise and by that we mean enterprise that accepts its responsibility to the community and works in co-operation with the federal, provincial and municipal governments according to an over-all plan, which is part of our policy. Trade unions, and organizations for producers and consumers are necessary elements in a democratic society; they should never be allowed to degenerate into the tools of a central bureaucracy or into a rigid corporative system. Such

[Mr. Herridge.]

economic organizations should participate in shaping general economic policy without usurping the constitutional prerogatives of parliament. That is why the socialist members of the group in the house—I refer to the members of the C.C.F.—are always among the first to protect the rights of this parliament and of legislature in general.

As a result of this economic democracy, which is the economic aspect of our philosophy, we believe that we can extend the individual freedom of all persons on the basis of economic security and increasing prosperity.

I have just mentioned these matters. I have not gone into detail on what we believe are the principles of economic democracy that are necessary to bring us out of the present situation or shall I say, to cure the present sick society in which we live. We admit that this amendment is a necessary amendment. It deals with one aspect of the problem but it is only a palliative; it deals with only one aspect of a constitutional disease.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me again emphasize that the members of this group are willing to co-operate and to support any immediate measure that alleviates, on a temporary basis even, the suffering of some Canadians from unemployment or ill health or the other sicknesses that prevail. We believe that what is necessary is a completely new approach and a new outlook to the problems that face our capitalist society.

In conclusion again, Mr. Speaker, let me re-emphasize our disappointment at the failure of the official opposition to seize this wonderful opportunity to deal in full with only the problem of unemployment,—

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** We are the only ones that dealt with unemployment.

**Mr. Herridge:**—having regard to the hundreds of thousands of Canadians who are experiencing great distress and in view of their demands upon the government repeatedly in recent weeks for an opportunity to debate unemployment.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River):** Mr. Speaker, in rising this afternoon to speak on this motion may I say that, for the sake of the record, I think it would be a good thing to put the motion on the record once again. It reads as follows:

That all the words after the word "that" be deleted and the following substituted therefor: "this house regrets the refusal of the government to accept and discharge its proper responsibility in the field of monetary policy and its demonstrable incompetence to manage the public