

*Beauharnois Power Project*

Minister. He held the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre as being primarily responsible for making legal and proper contributions made by corporations. If they are legal and proper what then is all the rip and row about, especially from the far C.C.F. corner?

An hon. MEMBER: They are not coming in very fast.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Earlier in the session I had occasion to make painful reference to the motion moved by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre asking for the setting up of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation. At that time nobody seemed disposed to set them up. I was very sorry that the government thought it advisable to adjourn the debate upon that interesting motion. I am almost of the opinion that they were culpable and working in collusion with the C.C.F'ers. Had there been a vote at that time it looks as if our friends over there the modern reformers, would have been divided. Rather than have that calamity befall them so early in their career, the government moved the adjournment of the debate before a vote could be taken. I may be doing my hon. friends on the government side an injustice in saying that was their purpose, but it is up to them to give a better explanation of their actions at that time.

I have had occasion to quote certain statements made by Mr. Williams who is ripping around the country calling the Liberals and Tories such terrible names. I do not intend to deal with him at this time as I have done so formerly, but I will refer to a Mr. Coldwell. This gentleman is a labour follower of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and is the head of the farmer-labour aggregation in Saskatchewan which have affiliated with the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation. He is the first lieutenant and right bower in Saskatchewan of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and is promulgating these governmental nostrums which we hear from time to time. He spoke in Saskatoon at the birth of this organization. He did not say anything very nice about the Conservatives but my hon. friends will have to take it. In fact, he did not say anything very nice of us either. Here are his words:

The Liberal party by that action—

That was the action of voting against Senator Meighen's motion against Senator McDougald and Senator Haydon. Hon. members will recall that famous speech about screaming; the Liberals had an opportunity

[Mr. Motherwell.]

of screaming with the screamer but they did not take it. Mr. Coldwell continues:

—stood self-condemned and the farmer-labour groups must not accept any part of that stigma by uniting with the Liberal party.

How can they expect to be united with the Liberal party?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I can remember when you were after them.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Once bitten, five times shy. The quotation continues:

But, said Mr. Coldwell, the Liberal party was not the only one that had accepted bribes. The Conservative party, also, was "born in sin and nurtured in corruption." In 1874 in the House of Commons, Sir John A. Macdonald, founder of the Conservative party, was accused of receiving money from the forerunner of the Canadian Pacific railway and resigned on that account.

He is not quite correct historically.

Mr. HACKETT: The sentiment is all right.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This is the man who is going to bring us a new heaven and a new earth if we will just set him up. The report continues:

There was nothing to choose between the two old parties. Farmers and Labourites must work for a new policy that would banish a system that had clogged the wheels of industry and which had proved itself to be a debt creating system.

He then goes on to the usual Russian stunt on collectivism and production. I am sorry to take up so much time of the house but for the last week or so I have been sitting here as tight as a knot on a log. If there is anyone to be blamed for my taking up time, it is our friends to my left. While they did not give me an invitation to join in, I have availed myself of the opportunity.

Hon. friends to my left have been posing as the saviours of the country and have been introducing a new social order which they promise will put us on easy street. If they could do that, we should give them an inning but they are the last ones on earth who can do it. I am not willing to experiment with a try.

I shall come back now more particularly to Beauharnois. I am not an authority upon power matters but I have looked upon this project as being one of the finest and soundest on the North American continent. I sat around the council table for days helping to place restrictions around this project when it first came to the Dominion government for approval. We surrounded it with so many safeguards in the interests of the public that