

humanity. Instead of reducing production we should provide funds to increase it, to make available to a greater extent to Canadians and those who need it in the world. In front of so many wonders the pride of men knows no limit. In that foolish run towards ever more science, more technology, more conquests of a material nature, humanity is heading the wrong way.

It is not a question of condemning science or technology Mr. Chairman, but of proclaiming that they are not an aim per se, that they have their limits in any case, that they must above all serve man, not enslave him, or even less destroy him and for all those reasons they must remain at the human level. Are the mediocre means proposed by the Prime Minister likely to cure the evils from which we suffer? They are but puny measures; prices will continue to rise, taxes will take even more away from the people. The evils from which we suffer are the result of the present system where finance is the only thing worth working for.

We do not work for the human being, we do not try to give him what he needs, to make available to him what he requires; for example, we work to increase interests as well as the public debt. When the public debt grows, taxes go up.

The bill now under consideration reflects the wish to see the cost of living go up still further, since pensions will be geared to the cost of living every three months. Taxes of all kinds are crippling the economy and creating inflation. What is crippling the economy is the lack of consumer purchasing power.

Through these various means, Mr. Chairman, the essential purchasing power is taken away from the consumers and given to the makers of dollars, and as a result, interest rates and the public debt go up.

Under those conditions, Mr. Chairman, we must find the abuses and remove them if we really want to solve the problems.

We find, Mr. Chairman, that the problem is not to feed the hungry but to eradicate hunger; it is not to help the oppressed but to abolish oppression; it is not to remove the evils throughout the world, but to cope with them with the proper remedies.

● (1730)

Of course, it is understood that every man's right entails a duty towards society, but who can force the State to fulfil its duties? The State is the power, the strength, the law; it is the law; it has no moral conscience, it is irresponsible, it is its own end and purpose. The State is nothing more than a manifestation of tensions.

That is what I think, Mr. Chairman; that is why we cannot remedy deplorable situations, solve our problems and restore our economic stability.

The man who is hungry has a right to life and food. In the world of law, he can only die; but in fact, he will live, saved by pity, charity; but these cannot constitute in the system anything but a compounding influence, for they only confirm the impotence of the law and its decisions.

Mr. Chairman, when a large number of Canadians live off welfare, live off the workers who sweat and carry the burden of taxes, of public debts, we are discouraging all

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initiative. There are no Canadians with any encouragement left, there are no Canadians, owners of industries or businesses, with any encouragement left. All are discouraged, all are ready to give up. A great number of them are contemplating giving up their business because they can not even earn an adequate living from it.

Because of the burden they must bear, Mr. Chairman, because they have to carry everything, the State, taxes, income taxes, increases in salaries, they are incapable of making ends meet. That is the cause of great bankruptcies these days.

Mr. Chairman, we must therefore take modern businesses out of the false universe of law to make them enter into the living universe of duty and of moral obligation. Order presupposes a law which establishes an end; it also requires means to attain an end.

Here again, in Canada, during the first ten days of August, Mr. Chairman, Her Majesty the Queen of England and the Prime Ministers of 32 countries members of the Commonwealth held a great conference in Ottawa to study major economic problems in relations between great institutions. At no time did anyone deign lower himself to the question of the needs of man, who is the basic unit of all political, economic and social administrations.

Despite the extraordinary growth of our annual production, the national economic disequilibrium is present everywhere under all kinds of forms, for example inflation, unemployment, and poverty affecting all social levels, even the richest.

Faced with the urgent necessity of restoring the economic balance in the life of the nation, each of us tries to make gestures, defensive acts in a hurry and a flurry which are not in keeping with the importance of the corrections that must be made. These corrections would require more calm and mastery to be really efficient, for now and the future.

The regulations or improvements to the regulations which we are now adopting to do some good to one sector of our society—senior citizens—are being adopted much too rapidly. The problem has not been sufficiently studied.

What we give, we give only in dribbles, whereas we should give fully and generously to restore the balance of our economy.

I state here, Mr. Chairman, the whole difference between act and thought, between gesture and idea. When we say that thought leads the world, that thought comes before action, that we must think before acting or speaking—because the word equals an act in some circumstances—we recognize explicitly that all that happens in real life is the result of previous thinking which led to action and to a change in our way of life.

Mr. Chairman, if we only see inflation, unemployment and poverty, if all Canadians complain that incomes are too low and taxes too high, I say that an exact knowledge of present economic facts can enable us to realize immediately, for all Canadians, a rise in income or a decrease in taxes. If we do not take time to get information, statistics tell us that in Canada, in 1973, we produce \$114 billion worth of goods and services but that only 60 per cent of this production are consumed and 40 per cent capitalized. Consumption merely amounts to \$66 billion and capitali-