

*The Address—Mr. Blackmore*

to have something done to its head. There is no doubt about that. What leads people into bewildered thinking is the belief that all the money we use to distribute goods has to come out of the taxpayer's pocket. This is not so, as the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna clearly indicates.

In respect of old age pensions, let me say that we would not pay them according to how much we could take from the taxpayer; we would pay them in accordance with the amount of goods we were producing. Certainly, if every person in Canada over sixty-five years of age were receiving \$100 per month, it would represent an important factor in the event of the onset of a depression. If it could be done without increasing taxation, surely it is the responsibility of the members of this house to see that it is done.

Suppose we turn now to the Indian problem. I believe everyone in this house will agree that the aged Indian should be receiving an old age pension. Everyone agrees that we have neglected our Indians in the matter of education. Everyone agrees that there should be an Indian claims commission to give the Indian a fair deal such as he was promised by those with whom he made the first agreements a hundred years ago. Everyone agrees that the Indian ought to have the money with which to start out. Yet, in all these ways we are neglecting our Indians in a manner which is a public scandal. Indians are not being neglected because we do not want to do right by them but because we do not know how to finance; not because we cannot produce all the goods and services to provide the Indian with all the fine things he ought to have, but because we do not know how to put those goods and services in the hands of the Indians.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that this whole situation constitutes a cause for serious thought. It has been said that the people of my group are engaged in being gloom mongers, but that is far from the case. When I first came here as a member 14 years ago, the Hon. W. R. Motherwell, whom some members may remember, who was the premier of Saskatchewan at one time and federal minister of agriculture, one of the finest men who ever sat in this house—

**Mr. Boucher:** May I ask the hon. member who has the floor to tell me the year in which the Hon. Mr. Motherwell was premier of Saskatchewan?

**Mr. Blackmore:** I shall finish my speech first. He was the minister of agriculture in this House of Commons. If I made a misstatement as to his having been premier of Saskatchewan, I shall take it back, but it has nothing to do with my general argument.

[Mr. Blackmore.]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Blackmore:** If I have said something bad about him, it would be a terrible thing.

**Mr. Boucher:** It certainly would.

**Mr. Blackmore:** But I did not.

**Mr. Boucher:** You could not.

**Mr. Blackmore:** No, I did not. Mr. Motherwell said that this Social Credit group constituted the only bright spot in this house. As the days go by, you will find that this group does constitute the only bright spot in the house, because it is the only group that can see its way through the difficulties. Others cannot see, not because the light did not shine, but because the people who should have seen it were blind and could not see it.

The point is that the Social Crediters, being the people who think in terms of the new economy, see only cause for rejoicing in the great increases in production. Why should there not be rejoicing when we can produce more of everything than man can consume? If we were unable to do so that would be a real cause for worry, but we are able to produce so much more with our wonderful machines, with our wonderful ability to use solar energy, our knowledge about plastics and many other things. We have now reached the point where we can produce more than the world can use. Yet, Mr. Speaker, there are now at least a billion people in the world who are on the verge of starvation; people who are actually suffering for want of the goods that we can produce. In the face of this, we are contemplating methods of limiting our production because we do not know how to distribute those goods in our own country, much less among the people abroad.

The group of people who see in this wonderful productive capacity of this world a cause for joy certainly cannot be called gloom mongers. The world has never been in a happier time than it is today, if we only knew how to live in an age of abundance, instead of continuing to try to live in an age of abundance by using a financial system adapted only for an age of scarcity. Our financial system was built up to meet conditions of an age of scarcity. We now have reached a time when we have an age of abundance. The use of machines, solar energy and other devices has displaced man; and because we cannot employ men and give jobs, we do not know what in the world to do with them, and we do not know what to do with the goods which they could buy if they could get the money with which to buy them. I contend, Mr. Speaker, that there is every reason for rejoicing. No generation in this world has ever been so blessed as this generation, and no people on this earth