Who was Sir Thomas White? Sir Thomas White was the Canadian minister of finance during world war I. He was the minister who introduced the Finance Act of 1914. He was the finance minister who administrated the act all throughout world war I as a member of a Conservative government, and then as a member of the Union government he administered the Finance Act of 1914 through the trying reconstruction period. During the course of his lifetime Sir Thomas White served as (1) vice-president of the Bank of Commerce, (2) director of the Canada Life Assurance Company, (3) director of the National Trust Company, and (4) director of the Steel Company of Canada. Such a man ought to be worthy of attention when speaking of matters pertaining to finance. Mentioning, as recorded on page 89 of the report, such financial problems as "refunding our outstanding loans", "the flotation of new issues, whether in Canada or elsewhere", "the sale of treasury bills", "the management of an exchange stabilization fund", "reducing unemployment", and "raising the domestic price level through monetary action"; at page 89 of the report Sir Thomas White follows with these words:

> In the solution of all these problems it is my belief that the existing banking system of Canada supplemented by the provisions of the Finance Act, affords the government a much more efficient instrument than that system controlled and regulated by a newly-created central bank, independent, in theory at least, even of the government of the day.

And who was Beaudry Leman? Mr. Leman held the degrees of B.Sc., C.E., and D.C.Sc. During the course of his life he served as (1) president and managing director of Banque Canadienne Nationale, Montreal, (2) vice-president of General Trust of Canada, (3) vice-president of Credit Foncier Franco-Canadien, and (4) director of (a) Fairchild Aircraft Ltd., (b) Montreal Tramways Company, (c) Ogilvie Flour Mills Company, (d) Provincial Transport Company, (e) Napierville Junction Railway Company, (f) Consolidated Bakeries of Canada Limited, (g) Shawinigan Water and Power Company, (h) Delaware and Hudson Railroad Corporation and (i) Allied War Supplies Corporation. He was 55 years of age at the time of the writing of his memorandum.

Such were the two men whom Canada put upon the royal commission. Such were the two commissioners whose opinions and emphatic protests the two big interests men from the city of London, England, so cavalierly disregarded, perhaps because Mr. Beaudry Leman in his memorandum of dissent set forth six cogent and well-supported reasons against establishing a central bank in Canada. In each of the fourth, fifth and sixth of these reasons he clearly indicates his feeling that the decisive power over Canada's financial system should reside unchallengeably in the hands of the parliament of Canada, much, no doubt, as it did in 1933 when the treasury board consisted of the minister of finance and five other ministers nominated by the governor in council, those ministers at that time being the minister of trade and commerce, the minister of railways and canals, the minister of national revenue, the minister of marine and the minister of justice with the deputy minister of finance serving as secretary. See the report, paragraph 136.

Neither Sir Thomas White nor Mr. Beaudry Leman expressed any doubt about the soundness of the $10 million issue unbacked to be spent into circulation, or the $16 million issue against railway securities to be spent into circulation, or the $50 million issue backed by imperial treasury bills issued to be spent into circulation. These two authorities, therefore, apparently believed that dollars issued by the minister of finance to be spent into circulation, not lent, had their place in the Canadian economy and that such issues when spent scientifically would be sound. This, Mr. Speaker, is exactly the attitude of Social Crediters.

May I just point out to the all-wise gentleman who wrote that editorial in the *Financial Post* of October 26, 1957, against Mr. Low and Mr. Aberhart, the kind of authorities he has backed right into; and if he feels he is in a position to question the opinion of Sir Thomas White and Mr. Beaudry Leman, I can only say he has a great deal more conceit than an ordinary man needs.

If a Social Credit government were in power in Ottawa the minister of finance would open his attack upon the problem of unemployment, the problem of surpluses and the problem of the shortage of purchasing power in the hands of consumers by, first, paying a certain scientifically calculated percentage of the price of goods and services as they enter into consumption thereby paying the sellers for granting the consumer a discount—such discount being called by Social Crediters a "compensated discount"—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am sorry to have to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

Mr. Blackmore: May I just finish this sentence, Mr. Speaker? And such discount constituting part of the just price mechanism advocated by Social Crediters, the net result of which discount brings down the price of goods rather than allowing them to go up and consequently is diametrically opposed to inflation.

Mr. Habel: A rather long sentence.