

of the taxpayer who has to pay the bills. We have all read the essays and theories of economic experts and we know of what little value they are. None of them has evolved anything which could help us out of our present dilemma, and I do not know what may happen to us as a nation if all our citizens should receive an academic education; for I find few, if any, of such people ever work at manual or laborious work except by way of talk, theory and writing. And while they talk, the taxpayer works to meet the obligations that conserve our institutions and advance the nation.

Many suggestions have been made by hon. members to the left of the Speaker, with regard to what we should do. Many of them have come from the hon. member for Vancouver Centre (Mr. Mackenzie). It is only right to expect that the mind which knew when England was going off the gold standard, would be more full of facts than any other. The hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River (Mr. Heenan) gave some suggestions; so did the hon. member for New Westminster and also the hon. member for Témiscouata (Mr. Pouliot). But not one of them said in the house that he had the endorsement of his leader. Is it going to be a part of the Liberal policy that every one can dictate it?

Mr. MUNN: We have a certain amount of freedom over here.

Mr. ROBINSON: And they show it, too.

Mr. PLUNKETT: I can only say this, that they may have a certain amount of freedom over there, but at the same time I am looking to the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Mackenzie King) as their leader because he is drawing the salary. Perhaps they are dissatisfied with him; perhaps they are not; but some of us on this side consider that as long as he is their leader, he is something of an asset to the Conservative party and I think it is the unanimous wish of us on this side that he continue to occupy that position for years to come.

As a nation we should have no doubt about the future, for the following reasons:

The decisive action on the part of the federal and provincial governments, municipalities and our two great transcontinental railways, to stop unnecessary and wasteful expenditures, and the realization of our citizens, that, if Canada is to prosper, extravagance must end.

The present outlook and possibilities for good crops and the knowledge that came by those engaged in agriculture that the growing of wheat alone, to the exclusion of other farm

products, does not guarantee a living or assured financial returns.

The coming Imperial conference with all its future possibilities for increased trade to all parts of the British Empire. This conference we hope will be a great success.

Therefore we should, with assurance, expect that Canada will be carried through this time of trouble and economic warfare by the character of our people and the integrity of our institutions.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I cannot find it consistent to vote for either of the amendments offered by hon. gentlemen opposite, and I shall give my support to the main motion.

Mr. ANGUS MacINNIS (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, making and listening to budgets is a rather disappointing occupation at the present time. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes) has received so many compliments and congratulations regarding his presentation of the budget that I am sure he will pardon me if I sympathize with him instead of congratulating him. I know the difficulties he has in the position he holds in a government that does not intend to change from the beaten path it followed when conditions were so different. I said that budgets are disappointing to the people who hear them, and I can assure the house that this one is a great disappointment to me. It is disappointing in that it does not take into consideration the changed conditions under which we are living, the fact that the class which has assumed the prerogative of supplying the needs of our people has fallen down on the job, and the fact, as stated in the words of his own leader during the election campaign of 1930, that the first duty of the Canadian government is to provide work for Canadians.

It is rather to be regretted that the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. Plunkett), who has just taken his seat, should have gone out of his way to take a slam at the unemployed in general as well as at other hon. members. As long as he confined himself to hon. members, he was quite within his right, but when he went out of his way to infer that because one or two unemployed people were found imposing upon the local authorities, all the unemployed were in the same position, he was going rather too far. I say that he will not make the same statement before a meeting of the unemployed in the city of Victoria. The time is long past when anyone should have the gall to say that men are unemployed because of their own fault. Let me quote