

Correspondence on Surcharges

their time. The famous fear of the future to which we seem unable to find a solution.

Furthermore, if we examine that famous money system, the ravages it has caused in the world, we realize it corrupts the soul, because there are many who will still the voice of their conscience to earn their living. How many businessmen have robbed their competitors because they could not have carried on without that? How many professional people have sacrificed their science and their art on the altar of comfort and of the necessity of living according to their station in life? How many public men have sold out their country to ensure economic security for themselves?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Dionne: The corruption of the soul is so deep on account of the tight money system that it has become a moral law to consider making money as the sole purpose in life: Thou shalt get an education to earn money; thou shalt choose such a profession because it pays better; thou shalt leave thy wife and thy children to earn your living; thou shalt study selling technique in order to get more money out of a lesser service.

"Let us not give money for nothing; we would only encourage laziness." "Money must be earned the hard way; otherwise, men will not love God." "Business is business." "Let your family do without in order to put money aside," pretext for all sorts of treasons. The word "money" is more often on our minds than the word "love" in our hearts. Thus, our money system keeps humanity in bondage. "Man worships the golden calf." "Money is his main concern." It is because the money system is not directed towards its proper aim. Money should remain in its place: it is a means of exchange, not of domination.

Our system is faulty and it is condemned by the greatest doctrinal authority in the world; that is beyond question. The following is to be found in a memorable encyclical letter:

Those who hold and control money and credit supply the life-blood of the entire economic body and grasp, as it were, in their hands the very soul of production, so that no one dare breathe against their will.

An hon. Member: Let us print money.

Mr. Dionne: We should stop more often and look in that direction, for it is not production that is lacking, nor courage on the part of our workers, nor abundance. What is lacking and what we must find is a way to distribute production. I think there is a way, perhaps the only one, to cope with this problem of unemployment which is bringing so much hardship to our Canadian families and which our legislators, who think they know so much, have not been able to solve yet.

I shall bring my remarks to a close by an example. When God created the world, he created goods. If we are not contented with our lot, we only have to dig up the soil: they are still lying there. But He did not create "dollars". However, he gave man and woman an intelligence so that they could use the wealth which He has created. I suggest that the person who said, a few years ago that we are living in a world of lunatics whose government is entrusted with the worst of them was absolutely right, for we are now in an impossible situation.

(Text):

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, I have no objection to accepting the offer of the hon. member for Kootenay East to participate in this debate but would hasten to assure the house that while I have had some experience in bush operations and of organizations in that field, I feel much more at home in the field that the hon. member for Kootenay East mentioned. However, I realize that tonight we have an exceptionally large number of cabinet ministers with us. I presume that the reason they are here this evening is—

An hon. Member: Not to listen to you.

Mr. Peters: No, I presume they did not come here to listen to me, but to wish the Minister of Public Works well in his travels and to wish him well in the deliberations which are to take place. If so, I wish to join with them.

The hon. member for Kootenay East, in an earlier discussion today, made what I think was a very unfair statement about industry in one of our provinces. I would only presume that these remarks were made not necessarily because he believed them, but because one of his colleagues from the province of Saskatchewan has told him and many of his colleagues these things so often that he does believe them. I would just like to put on the record that in discussing this resolution tonight we are faced with the problem that manufacturing in Canada has found fewer and fewer employees over the last few years. I would make the suggestion that the drop has been greater in the last year or two and that for this reason this resolution will be very welcome. However, the remark was made that in Saskatchewan, since 1941, the population of industrial workers has decreased. I do not know what the situation is that leads the member to this conclusion. Maybe Mr. Thatcher has a new set of figures published for his own benefit. When the hon. member for Kootenay East comes to parliament I think he should at least give the house dominion bureau of