

tempting instead thereof anything so revolutionary as a complete change of the existing social order.

There is another distinction which I think should be kept in mind, Mr. Speaker, and that is that socialism as set forth by its leaders, or as set forth in this resolution, is not to be regarded as being synonymous with cooperation as cooperation is generally understood. The cooperative movement, again, is an individualistic movement, not a socialist movement. The cooperative movement in the different countries has developed as it has done under the order of society as it exists at the present time. It has recognized that there is need to control greed. It has recognized that it is desirable for men to work together in as many ways as may be possible in order to serve their mutual interests, and that has been done by the formation in many countries of great cooperative societies of one kind or another. One example with which everyone I think is familiar, and perhaps the outstanding example of cooperation in the British Empire, at least, is the English and Scottish wholesale cooperative societies. May I point out that these wholesale cooperative societies and others continue to carry on their business on a basis similar to that which exists under a social order based on private property; that is, interest is paid on investments, managerial salaries are paid, and there are differences in the rate of wages according to the nature of service that is rendered. The one outstanding difference is that instead of leaving matters to competitive groups which are fiercely competing with each other, an effort is made to bring together into one vast association those who are consumers as well as those who are producers, so that when it comes to a question of distribution all may share in a more equitable way than would otherwise be possible.

Miss MACPHAIL: Would the speaker allow me one question?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes.

Miss MACPHAIL: Has he read No. 6 in the eight points of the cooperative commonwealth, which says:

Encouragement of all cooperative enterprises which are steps to the attainment of the cooperative commonwealth.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes, I have read that, and it bears out just the point I am seeking to make. My hon. friends speak of favouring cooperative enterprises, and by that they would have the people believe that anyone who is encouraging cooperative enterprises is encouraging the socialist state. I

want to make perfectly clear that I stand here strongly in favour of cooperative enterprises. I would like to see them furthered as much as possible, but I favour them, not because I believe that they will lead to a socialist state, but because I believe that they will help to avoid the possibility of a socialist state. They are based on self help, not on reliance upon the state. They retain all the merits of individual initiative and individual enterprise which would be lost under a socialist state.

Miss MACPHAIL: May I say just a word?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Miss MACPHAIL: If the speaker permits the question, I think the house should rest easy. May I point out that the words used are, "the cooperative commonwealth." While the leader of the opposition may say that we want everything owned by the state and all private property taken away, I am pointing out that No. 6 points out that that is not true. What we are looking for is voluntary cooperation which will lead to the cooperative commonwealth.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Again I want to make clear that I favour cooperative enterprises, not because they lead to a cooperative commonwealth at all, but rather because they lead away from the cooperative commonwealth as the term is used in this resolution, being synonymous with socialism, and that is where I think my hon. friends are mistaken in taking the course that they take. I support them in advocating cooperation for all they are worth, but when they say that cooperation is a monopoly of the socialist party, I claim they are quite wrong. I say cooperation has made the great headway that it has under the individualist system, as it has existed up to the present time. For evidence of that one has only to take a list of the cooperative organizations in the world, and he will realize that they are being maintained under a system of private property and competition.

Mr. BENNETT: Except in Russia.

Mr. HEAPS: Is it not a fact that in Great Britain cooperative societies are affiliated with the Labour party?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Some of them may be affiliated with the Labour party. But, affiliation with the Labour party does not necessarily mean that all their members would go the length of advocating a socialist state. Many of the best Liberals have been born of the cooperative movement. What I should