

*Employment Support Bill*

We must utilize the CDC. We must have a careful look at our labour picture and we must develop our position. The government now has to decide whether it is going to say we cannot make it alone as an economic nation or that we can. I venture to say that 90 per cent of the people in Canada will say that we can and that all we need is conviction.

We have just about all the assets one can think of, and we have to make up our minds whether we are going to continue to follow these antiquated agreements. We have a transportation system in Canada but this is a large country. Possibly we will have to subsidize and automate the system. We may have to subsidize the cost of transporting products from areas in Canada to the seacoast in exactly the same way as the other countries are doing.

**An hon. Member:** We have been saying that in Saskatchewan for a long time.

**Mr. Otto:** We must also decide what our policy will be in connection with corporations. If we are going to charge the corporations for everything they have and charge the entrepreneurs in the same way, we will not compete with other nations which are helping to establish these industries elsewhere. This government will have to pay the majority of research costs because small industries cannot absorb them. The government will have to pay for a good deal of the promotional costs.

We must make sure that the efforts of our External Affairs department are directed toward trade rather than the cocktail circuit. We must forget this old idea about the External Affairs department having representatives in various areas to keep in touch with other nations. We must place the emphasis on trade and commerce as part of our whole system. We must have the Bank of Canada assume its rightful position, as mentioned by the hon. member for Duvernay. We must also change our monopoly laws to allow industry to exploit the market of 22 million people. Every product has its most efficient level of production. In some cases this amounts to millions of articles and in others only a few thousand. I believe we have the market if we rationalize our industries and amend our laws to allow competition within rational limits.

We have failed miserably in respect of our bargaining position. We know that most of the United States steel industries would shut down if they could not get our Labrador iron ore. The United States has small iron ore sources, but they cannot be used economically. They have sources in Brazil but they are a long way from the United States and I doubt very much whether Brazil is a place where one can invest confidently. The fact is that the United States steel industries continue to operate because of their access to our Labrador ore. We have this bargaining position. If our ore is to be used, the factories producing these goods should be established somewhere in the vicinity of Nova Scotia or elsewhere in that part of Canada. We have the natural gas, the water, the electricity, the nickel and all those things absolutely essential to this industry. We must have the guts to say to the United States that we will continue to sell these resources which produce a certain number of jobs but we want a certain percentage of those jobs for Canadians. We do not intend to be hoggish, but we want a certain percentage. We must

have agreements similar to the automotive agreement with all those industries internationally related between Canada and the United States.

• (12:40 p.m.)

We must also explore markets elsewhere. We are going to be an exporting nation but we really cannot export much more than we import. Of course, we could in terms of dollars because we could sell all our resources. Indeed, we could balance our payments internationally by selling nothing but resources and taking back nothing but manufactured goods, but this is not going to solve the problem of unemployment in Canada. We must think about these things. We must also have a government which is dedicated to the principle of supporting and expanding our industries so that we can compete profitably in other parts of the world. We must rationalize our products and say possibly that shoes are not the right product for Canada but that aircraft is because we have the electric power and the aluminum as well as other advantages in creating a large aeronautics industry which can outsell any other nation in the world. These are the type of things we must do. Above all, however, the government must say once and for all that we will stand alone and will not start any trade war. We must use our resources to our best advantage and bargain as any other nation. We can no longer accept the idea that there is some sort of world trade agreement to which only Canada is subject and no one else. I believe this can and should be done.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I think this government must face two very vital issues. Are we to say from now on that we are so tied to the United States economy that we cannot possibly work independently? If that is the case, then I believe the government should say so. If, on the other hand, the government concludes that we do have the resources which are necessary in order to be economically independent then it should state so. I suggest it is the latter course that Canadians will accept. I suggest the Prime Minister was elected as Prime Minister not because he said we have to follow the United States but because he gave the impression to Canadians that he would lead not only this country but the world. I cannot accept the idea that merely because we only have 22 million people we are nothing. Nations have conquered worlds with less than one tenth our population. What we need is conviction, dedication and esprit de corps. I suggest these are the things this government must do following this bill.

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, one of the first observations one must make in participating in the debate on Bill C-262 is that this bill has created a widespread interest, certainly on the part of all members of the House. I wish to make a few remarks on this bill as it relates to the industry of agriculture. The bill has been brought forth as a measure to deal with the specific problem created by a specific action of the United States which affects all industries in Canada which rely to a great degree upon exports to the United States. We are led to believe that the purpose of this bill is to alleviate the impact of the United States surcharge on Canadian goods. We are led to believe this bill is designed to help all industries. I believe in all sincerity, that one industry, agriculture, is conspicuously absent from the provisions of the bill. In this regard, I might say that the bill is

[Mr. Otto.]