

is in our society to last. No, the problem is not here either. Where is it? In the means of exchange of products? In money? We should subdue finance and let people be free. Why are there slowdowns, rotating strikes, legal or illegal? Because of a lack of purchasing power in general, sometimes to get better working conditions but in particular it is to improve the purchasing power.

With inflation protected by governments, because it is sometimes paying, the worker, despite better wages obtained after long struggles, buys less than five years ago with more money. If we go without butter, it is not because farmers do not produce enough. On the contrary, they complain because they get stuck with surpluses. They have to waste and destroy it. Most ridiculous, we import huge quantities from other countries. If we go without eggs, it is not because hens stopped laying nor because the producer does not work enough. On the contrary, eggs are destroyed. If we do not have enough meat, it is surely not because there is not enough beef in the country.

We witnessed last fall—and it nearly happened again this year—the killing of slaughter cattle that producers could not sell on the market at decent prices. The producer is losing money with his production, and consumers are short of money to buy that same production. If men, women and children only have rags on their backs it is not because sheeps do not give wool or because cotton plantations do not produce anymore. In addition to natural cotton and wool clothing, the human mind even managed to produce clothing made of nylon, rayon and other synthetic fabrics.

If families live in cramped quarters in slums it is not because there is no more wood, no more stone, no more cement or no more steel to build new houses—we have the building materials—it is not because we lack manpower—we have too much of it, we controlled it with working permits to protect the jobs of those who were already employed.

There is no lack of production; on the contrary, there are unemployed who want to work, at least the very great majority of them. In our system the unemployed are excess help; we do not know what to do with them. We retrain them; we overhaul the retraining system. We tell them to take courses, we pay them to do that and during that time they are not included in the unemployment statistics. We do not know what to do with the unemployed or unemployment. People are being given nearly as much to stand idle as to work, and that sometimes discourages the worker. Want of cash, of money, when we could produce but not buy. Want of cash, of money, during the war when money was ordering the destruction opposing peace. Want of cash, of money, after the war when prices were running, going up, before our incomes, our wallets. Want of cash, of money, today when plants send their workers back home because of unfilled orders in spite of a multitude of unmet consumers' needs and in part because of uncontrolled imports conditioning our industries.

Everyone is blamed except the financial interests, which control both governments and people. Tenants do not have enough money to pay their rent. Owners are penalized by a property control, the new lease system. We prevent them from using their property instead of making the financial

interests serve the tenants. We prefer to take away the freedom of everyone.

Are building materials too expensive? The state takes control over materials instead of controlling the financial interests which are causing the price increases. Are labour families lacking the essentials in spite of full stores? The Minister of Finance reprimands them by saying: You are not working enough, you should work four hours more every week, and tighten your belt.

We control the victims of finance instead of finance itself and we are seeing the results. The state restrains freedom, initiative, private enterprise, private property and says that its intervention is required because the situation is abnormal, but it is very careful not to interfere with financial tyranny which is creating abnormal conditions on purpose to lead to the subjection of individuals by the state.

The victims themselves hope that such will not be the case. Everyone tries to pass the penalty or the control over to others. Workers demand price controls, but not wage controls. Producers ask minimum prices for their products in the form of subsidies, like those provided in Bill C-50 on agricultural stabilization, but are against minimum wages for their employees. Tenants want owners to be controlled, but not themselves. The owners want to control their right to higher rents, but not a control of housing conditions. Owners protect against land tax increases, but demand stiffer business taxes.

The poor, the taxpayers want big corporations to pay more taxes, but the latter cry for subsidies for research, for marketing, or simply to maintain their prices at current levels. Oil is a case in point. So, everybody is caught in the financial trap, and we are fighting each other instead of breaking the trap open. There will never be any political control over the country if the economy goes uncontrolled. It has to be controlled, that is the only way. In other words, the economy must be led to its goal. How shall we go about leading the economy? By telling it what to do. Consumers should say what to do, and producers how to do it. The government's role is to remove obstacles, to look after the free flow of economic blood, that is money, buying power. In other words, the distribution of wealth.

Recently, the National Welfare Council issued a press release at the end of which the Minister of National Health and Welfare was reminded of certain commitments made on various occasions, and I quote:

Speaking to provincial ministers, the Minister of National Health and Welfare announced in February last the Canadian government's proposals concerning support and supplement, and he promised that:

"(...) I can certainly state that as long as it will be in the Canadian government's power to decide, the poor and have-nots will not bear the heaviest share of economic difficulties the western world might face—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but his time has now expired.

[English]

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, this debate on the NDP motion seems very close to the one on the guidelines bill that we were discussing. However, the total program of the government perhaps leaves much to be desired. With regard to professional incomes, I wish to make some comment on this because in committee certain