

ment, no matter how fair minded or anti-bureaucratic its officers may be.

For much the same reason just mentioned a second Industrial Conference should be convened. Time and effort are never ill spent in an honest endeavour to readjust the industrial situation for the permanent benefit of all parties. The example set by the enlarged Whitley program in England and by the American plan as detailed in Leitch's most interesting book "Man to Man" show what may be accomplished by the democratization of industry. It is freely prophesied that before long Labour will be hiring Capital rather than Capital hiring Labour. Would it not be well for both of these interests to realize what this reversal of existing practices may entail?

The prominent part assumed by Canada in the settlement of the labour clauses of the Peace Treaty, and the fact that she is now a member of the governing body of the International Labour Organization, make it incumbent that we should keep abreast of this great movement. It is of interest to note that of the twelve members forming that body eight are the appointees of the Council of the League and but four were chosen by the votes of the remaining nations. Once again the renown won by our men in the field secured to us the distinction of selection from amongst a score or more of rival candidates.

Here endeth, Mr. Speaker, my review of those material questions which I should like this Parliament to consider, and on that side of the shield, while the situation is not free from peril, there is no need for pessimism. We are incomparably better off than our European Allies; we have at our disposal the resources of a vast and richly endowed land, and we are wont to believe ourselves a virile, sane and industrious nation. Granted that these adjectives can be truthfully applied, there is nought before us to cause undue anxiety. As the Scot has it: let us "Set a stoot hairt to a stey brae." Shall we be the less happy if, for a few years, "We scorn delights and live laborious days?" I trow not, provided our hearts are stout and our minds retain their sanity. But therein lies the trouble: we are all more or less abnormal; just as the war has affected our financial status, so has it upset our nervous system and modes of thought.

During the war Canadians were united by a common danger and a firm purpose: these artificial stimulants, with other intoxicants of more noxious but not less exciting nature, have been withdrawn. There

[Mr. Cronyn.]

appears to be some danger of disintegration. Not only has the old-time class warfare revived, but new classes and groups have arisen and are vociferously demanding the overturn of established order.

Canada, too, has unfortunately become the refuge for many from the old lands who bring with them as their household gods the inherited grievances of European autocracy. They "still nourish in their bewildered brain that wild, unquenched, deep-sunken, old world pain." But, that they should be permitted to become leaders of any considerable body of citizens, to so poison the minds of their followers as to kill healthy or kindly thought, is a matter for deepest anxiety. Unless we regain our mental poise, there can be little hope of recovery in the body politic and much reason to fear disruption.

The history of the early days of peace following every bitter war shows the existence of similar conditions; and as this war was the greatest and most terrible ever waged, so are the reaction and disturbance more pronounced. The dogs of war, it is true, are in leash, but "those lesser breeds without the law" are still in full cry, and "havoc" is their note. No nation, race or belief is secure from their attack. The more prominent the individual, the more untiring his effort, the more unselfish his aims, the greater his sacrifices, the keener are the progeny of Cerberus to pull him down, to worry him into retirement or death. The man hunt is on! Denunciation and Defamation, Slander and Scandal are the leading couples in the hellish pack!

But, Sir, you may object these are not matters to be cured by legislative enactment. I quite agree. The doctrine that man's moral nature can be moulded by statute is as musty as are the blue laws of Connecticut. What can this House do to remedy so grave an evil, an evil which legislation is admittedly helpless to cure? I believe much can be done by the mere force of example.

We meet to-day in a new building, erected by modern methods, yet imbued with the beauty and stateliness of the past—a gathering place typical at every turn of Canadian life, yet one in which any Parliament of the world might be glad to convene. May we not be persuaded to believe that those fierce flames, which found so much suitable material to feed their frenzy, destroyed not merely an antiquated and hazardous structure, but as well utterly consumed the equally inflammable