

*Social Credit Monetary Policy*

Neither is it the opinion of the consumers who note a spiral in the price of food, clothes, rents and transportation.

There is also the problem of the 500,000 registered unemployed Canadians in addition to those whom statistics do not take into account since they are "seasonally adjusted" unemployed, ghost unemployed, who only disturb official figures and the rosy dreams of the ministers.

There is also a growing misery which stems from unemployment. More than 1,000,000 Canadians are unemployed which means that their families are deprived of the necessities of life because they are short of money though there is no shortage of goods. Is there a shortage of wheat to make bread? Of milk to feed families and meet children needs? Of cream to make butter which is no more to be found on Canadian tables, because we make do with 25 cents a pound margarine? Is there a shortage of poultry? Of hens so that eggs are scarcely used in Canadian fares? Is there a storage of eggs so that chicken are seldom eaten by the families of the unemployed? No, Mr. Speaker, there is no shortage of wheat to make bread, but the government pays farmers to lay their lands fallow and produce a little less. No, there is no shortage of milk, but the government refuses to subsidize farmers alleging that they produce too much milk, cream and butter. No, Mr. Speaker, we have no egg shortage in Canada, because Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and the western provinces take all steps to prevent entrance of eggs from other provinces. It has become a problem because there is a surplus. It sometimes leads to violent discussions.

Nor do we have a shortage of apples. In fact, Canadian applesauce producers complain that applesauce from South Africa competes with their own production. Nor is there a shortage of textile products for clothing Canadian families. There is no shortage of footwear for Canadian citizens' feet. Textile mills are closing down, dismissing their employees, lacking a market for their production. Shoe manufacturers complain that Italian, Czechoslovak and Indian shoes come into Canada. Is there a shortage of furniture to give Canadian homes the modern touch? Is there a shortage of wood, of building materials? Is there a shortage of labour for erecting buildings, factories and plants, for housing families and providing jobs for Canadian workers? No, Mr. Speaker. We have plenty of all that. There are also more than 750,000 people who do not produce anything, who would like to receive a salary in exchange for labour, in order to be able to buy the goods and services they need and for which their wives and children are calling.

How does the government react to these problems? It is never still and pretends to be doing something. Ministers make statements, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin) wants to sell as much as possible to foreign countries so that foreigners may have better food, better clothing, better housing and better health, and in the meantime he forgets that thereby prices are rising in Canada, that thereby inflation is spreading whereas our people are hungry, go about in rags and live in substandard housing. That is what the government is doing with its tools in the present system.

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

What else does the government do? What steps does it take to correct the situation? Two things: First of all, it is not a bit shy about levying taxes, thus adding to the fiscal burden of Canadians and reducing their purchasing power. Government officials do not seem to be unemployed and supply the matter for the publication of white papers, red papers and finally blue books. The whole thing began with the white papers on the Constitution, as if a new constitution was needed for Canadians to eat all they want.

Then, the white paper on taxation was published, which quickly became the red paper, because the proposals it contains, specially with regard to the Canada Development Corporation, lead to individual dispossession and state control over all businesses, on the savings of citizens, in order to establish public concerns, government enterprises, which will finance themselves with the compulsory savings of citizens, through taxes, invested by the government in order to implement the theories of Mr. J. M. Keynes, that is a collectivist economy. That is where we are led by the proposals contained in the white paper on tax reform.

A white paper on unemployment insurance was introduced: that was a great discovery. A white paper on income security was also presented. Those are not legislation, the ministers repeatedly say, but merely working papers, proposals put before the Canadian people, in order to get their opinion, advice, suggestions.

Constitutional matters have been discussed in this House and all over the country at least since 1940, when Ottawa wanted to force the hand of the provinces in order to snatch from them the sole power of taxation which they were in a position to exercise. The question of unemployment and of unemployment insurance has been discussed in the country since 1944 when the Unemployment Insurance Act was passed. The question of taxation also goes back to 1940 when Ottawa took away from the provinces, as I have just said, their taxation rights.

The question of guaranteed income has also been discussed in this chamber since 1944 when the Créditistes entered Parliament, where they made themselves the champions of guaranteed minimum income for everyone, where they pushed the government to pass family allowances legislation, where they urged the government to increase old age pensions. Therefore, there is nothing new in the proposals of the government which is really short of solutions. It says to us: Advise us! Give us some suggestions! We are ready to co-operate with them, but on condition that they leave the beaten paths, that they at least listen to our suggestions and apply the ones we offer.

• (3:40 p.m.)

All too often, unfortunately, the Social Credit's opponents propose arguments such as: if the Sacred doctrine is so good, how come it has never been put to the test in another country? To this I could reply: if the telephone is such a good means of communication, how come it has ever been tried before the XIXth century? The man who