

uniform, monotonous and artificial. Dividends are the chief objective; to get dividends human beings are sacrificed. Wages are shockingly low, often below the level of mere subsistence, so that people are forced into immoral and criminal ways of life to eke out a precarious livelihood. The maximum in hours of work is exacted in return for the minimum in wages. Senior employees, whose lifeblood has been drawn from them by long years of faithful service, are in many cases cast out without retiring allowances to make room for younger and cheaper people. It matters not what suffering is entailed for human beings so long as the stockholders are paid their dividends. This amazing selfishness and short-sightedness of the modern industrial system is creating a progressively lower standard of living and a vicious struggle for existence philosophy on the part of the people, increasingly serious social problems which must find their tragic solution either in war or in revolution. In the face of modern methods of competitive living the royal law of love, bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ, is a hollow mockery in Canada, presumably a Christian country. This is the contradiction of modern life; a truly wonderful appreciation of the value of the single soul in some quarters, but an absolute denial of any such values in others.

The Stevens inquiry did a great deal to clear up that situation. Mr. Stevens was a most efficient chairman of the price spreads and mass buying committee in 1934, and for the employees in industries and white-collar workers, in the large departmental stores and large and small industries he obtained better conditions. He deserves a great deal of credit for that, and so do the Conservative party of Mr. Bennett's day as head here.

I should like to say a few words about external affairs. We should have had a Kipling. It would have been a good thing for this country. He wrote a poem at the time of the Diamond Jubilee when representatives came from Canada in 1897. When Sir Wilfrid Laurier went to the Diamond Jubilee he was first in the Diamond Jubilee procession. Kipling wrote:

A nation spoke to a nation,
A Queen sent word to a Throne;
"Daughter am I in my mother's house,
But mistress in my own.

The gates are mine to open
As the gates are mine to close,
And I set my house in order,"
Said our Lady of the Snows.

That was written at the time of the Diamond Jubilee. If Britain had called in, at the time of the last war and after it, the empire and commonwealth, she would have escaped the great crisis she is now in and she would have been able to expand her exports and markets and this would have enabled her industries to recover. Canada should have stayed in the sterling area, as did New Zealand and Australia, to enable Britain to recover her industry

within the empire by preferential trade, first, last, and all the time. This could have been done and that was the greatest way of trading. There would have been once again, as after 1933, prosperity for all. Only in this way could it have been done. We threw ourselves into this jam by Bretton Woods and the United States loan to Britain, refusing an empire trade conference before the Geneva trade tower of Babel. We preferred internationalism and totalitarianism to preferential trade, when we should have told them at Geneva and the United States that preferential trade is a family matter and should not be subject to discussion at all at Geneva. As I said in an article, a symposium in the *Monetary Times* of September, 1943:

The proposal for political amalgamation between Canada and the United States will find little or no response in Canada while we are a unit in our admiration for the people of our devoted ally in this war and have the same common views on the war and the new world to come. Canada will continue forever on her destiny, yesterday, today and forever in a union of hearts and hands with the mother country and her dominions for all time.

We are not an independent nation. Such castles in the clouds had a rude awakening when this war began. We are a link in a chain of free dominions and colonies within and making up the British empire. Talk about annexation with the United States? No. There is no feeling whatever in favour of it. Nor of independence, either. This war showed the folly of small independent nations. Canada was the chief drifter from the mother country for the twenty years between the two wars—the most disastrous years which almost finished freedom, liberty and even civilization itself. Canada's dream of status isolation and separatism exploded and never again will she depend on such folly as pacifism and isolation.

In future, linked with Britain, our policy should be might plus right, and the time has come for Canada to cease whining about status. Status and autonomy and that empire-wrecking Statute of Westminster helped cause this war.

This is from the *Monetary Times* also of September, 1943.

What Canada has done the past forty-four years she has done of her own volition and she will do the same again gladly, namely, to come to the aid of the mother country in her hour of peril . . .

I believe in what Mr. Churchill said, that he "would not preside over the liquidation of the British empire." Certainly Canadians will not let it go by default. Canada is not going to be talked out of the British empire. Canada will have to be fought out of the British empire. If Canada could have been talked out of it long ago this would have been done . . .

I believe that is correct. Those who are attacking the Progressive Conservative party fail to point out that in both the federal and provincial spheres this party has been the pioneer of nearly all the social legislation the