Canada Development Corporation

properly done and that advice is fairly spread across the board. Government experts can advise. They should be able to go to a private agency and say, "We do not think this is going to work, because..." The government must be encouraged to say, "Before putting in the Canadian taxpayers' money we must be conviced that this will be a viable industry."

This is a big country and we need a flexible policy. I believe in the distribution of wealth. I believe we should do all we can to help people in various areas. I believe that we should try to set up industry where there is no industry. On the other hand, I think we would be foolish if we tried to put the steel industry of Hamilton on Baffin Island. I would much rather see a seaway built, as was done, with the consequence that ships could sail up the St. Lawrence and up to Hamilton and transport iron ore from Baffin Island, northern Quebec, northern Ontario or from wherever it could be found, cheaply and efficiently, and also transport steel to places where it can best be used.

Let us see what the Japanese have done with Alberta coal. It has been in Alberta for a long time. The Japanese did the research, now they are shipping 100 million tons of coal to Japan. The Japanese are in a unique position in Asia. At present, Asia is theirs. Can we compete? I think we can. We will not do it by wishful thinking and by returning to nineteenth century nationalism. We will not do it by carrying on the class war. That has been won; in Canada there are no classes; nobody in Canada has a monopoly on profits. The unemployed in Quebec, New Brunswick or Alberta can still go to work if they are willing to adopt, willing to reclassify and to retrain. I am only begging that we do all we can to make this easy for them. We must set up more national trade schools. we have done this in the past, but not enough of it. Also, we ought to anticipate some of the problems that may arise. We ought to go to the chemical industry and to the pulp industry with our experts and find out their problems. We need more communication.

Some years ago, when Canada's trade was slumping, I made a suggestion which I still think is valid. How many of us know where the products we use are made. One thing we could do right now is buy Canadian. It would be a good idea if our products carried a recognizable stamp. It could be a red maple leaf, if you think that would not desecrate our flag, or a beaver.

An hon. Member: A red one.

Mr. Bigg: We could stamp on the product, in letters the size of which could be legislated and would vary with the size of the containers, if you like, the quantity of Canadian labour, Canadian raw material, etc., that had gone into the product. We might begin with "30 per cent Canadian made" and grade the scale right up to "100 per cent Canadian made". When we reach 100 per cent, let us have a gold maple leaf or a gold beaver, because that would show the product was 100 per cent Canadian raw materials, labour and expertise. This would not shock the Japanese; people already know what is made in Japan.

• (5:40 p.m.)

We can do a great deal to find out what Canadians want and need. I have mentioned the automobile industry. What about a bumper that will withstand the jolts we receive from the heavy traffic on our roads? I do not care whether the Asians, including the Japanese, have one or not. We should do research on what we need.

An hon. Member: Why don't they fill in the potholes?

Mr. Bigg: Indeed. Our unemployment is at one of the highest rates in modern times. If we carried out proper research on pollution, we could kill two birds with one stone. By replanting our forests we would also be cleaning our air. I suggest that many young people would enjoy replanting forests during the summer. While we are at it, we might as well plant hardwood trees. What initiative are we taking with regard to our water problems? A question was recently asked in this House about whether the government was planning or helping to build a pipeline from Prudhoe Bay. The answer was that the government had not been asked. The government must start taking the initiative rather than waiting to be asked. The government should have investigated the matter of Prudhoe Bay as soon as the news was released. When I heard the news, I stood in my place and said that we should get on with the pipeline now. This is still my thinking. Those who do not agree say that we must think about the ecology of the north. That is pretty well balanced. A pipeline would be far less dangerous to the north than a supertanker sinking in the Arctic.

Our chosen leaders should not hide behind the excuse "Nobody asked me". As I understand it, Members of Parliament are to take the flag and say, "Follow me". We should not wait to be asked what we are going to do about a pipeline, planning or unemployment. We must not wait for an earthquake or a flood before we act. Noah built an ark. When it started to rain, he was ready. We know there will be slumps, periods of unemployment and automation which will result in the loss of jobs for many people. We must be ready for this. It is not good enough to sit around for three years and then when a problem arises say we are sorry but we do not have any plans. If we act in this manner, it will be a sorry spectacle.

Canadians are tired of us. They are talking about a new method of running Canadian affairs. Have we worn out the Parliamentary system? Is it no longer capable of accepting the challenge of leadership? Canadians want leadership, not foolish and half-hearted moves. In fact, sometimes they are broken-hearted moves. Why should we not forge ahead? If we are not experts, and few of us are, we should get a few dollar men in here. There are people who know how to run General Motors; they might be pleased to assist. There are talented men in this chamber who are not being paid what they are worth. There may be men in industry who would be willing to donate some of their time. C. D. Howe donated his considerable talents so that we were able to reach the stage we did at the end of World War II. There is nothing partisan about that, coming from a Tory.