

*Mobilization Act—Mr. Blackmore*

agrees should be done and which her resources manifestly fit her to do. The question which really matters is this: can Canada produce enough milk, and will she be able to produce enough milk during the next fifty years to provide every returned man with all the milk which he and his family need? The answer is emphatically, "Yes. Of course she can!" Then why deny it to the people? Why not offer it to them? Can Canada not produce enough meat, fruits, lumber, fuel; can Canada not train sufficient doctors and teachers to provide her fighters and her people with a decent standard of living? The answer must be unquestionably that she can. Reason would dictate that she do so and then distribute the goods.

Canada can so develop her credit by use of a modern monetary technique. I should like to read several excerpts from an article by A. A. Berle, Jr., assistant United States secretary of state, which is reported to have appeared in October, 1941, *Fortune*, and which indicates that there are other people who are thinking along the lines that I am thinking along. I quote:

There is no need for fear. Rather, we shall have an opportunity to create the most brilliant economic epoch the U.S. has yet seen. It is entirely feasible to make the country at once more prosperous and more free than it has ever been. We shall have in our hands the tools by which we can create a greater amount of economic justice, without sacrificing any of the essential freedoms.

May I pause to comment that if the government institutes a policy of owning the industries of this country, many freedoms of Canadians will be destroyed. But it is not necessary to organize on that basis. I quote again:

We shall come out of this (war) with an enormous expansion of plant capacity. At once the problem will have to be faced of shifting over these plants into work that is of use in a healthy, peace-time world. That means changing factories, machinery, and the processes so that they will turn out something that you and I can actually want and can use in civilian life. Big as this problem appears, we are technically prepared to solve it.

Then he deals with the matter of money as follows:

This raises the subject of finance. Finance is the easiest of the several problems we have to solve.

It must be remembered that here was a man speaking with his reputation at stake, a man who stands high in the United States government. Yet he says solemnly that finance is the easiest of the several problems we have to solve. I continue:

Nevertheless, it is in this field we are going to have the greatest difficulty.

[Mr. Blackmore.]

I agree that that will be the situation as long as we have stupid mentalities in control, who insist on continuing as they have done in the past. I quote:

The difficulty is not real. Technically, the solutions are sufficiently simple. The proper attitude towards dealing with a financial problem to-day is to consider finance as a job for a technical crew in the government. The specifications are relatively simple. So long as labour is available, materials are handy, and technical skill can be hired, the words "we cannot afford it" are absurd.

I maintain that such is the situation. Social credit and new democracy favour conscription of finance and industry before man-power. What do we mean by conscription of finance? Briefly, we mean that the government shall assume and exercise the function of creating and using new money which the goods-and-services-producing-and-consuming power of the country will support without inflation. I maintain that if the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) will call his cabinet together and then call in some people who have vision to assist them, they will be able to devise the means whereby they could mobilize all the resources of Canada, both human and material, in so far as it is necessary, in so far as the man-power will permit, without conscripting man-power.

I suggest to them that they seriously consider this possibility. Especially is this needful now that an almost stupid policy has been followed in this country since the outbreak of the war with the result that great numbers of our citizens have been aroused against the government policy of conscription. I suggest that under these circumstances the government should seriously consider the proposal that they conscript and use the financial power of this dominion. That does not mean that they shall take away a man's bank balance; that does not mean that they shall put on such a tax structure as will be onerous and injurious to the country's economic life, but it does mean that they shall assume and exercise the power to create the community's new money and will use that power in the best interests of the state.

Hon. P. J. A. CARDIN (Richelieu-Verchères): Mr. Speaker, at the outset of my remarks I ask to be excused by you and by the hon. members of the house for my very imperfect English. I have not attempted to prepare in advance the observations that I propose to make, in order that I may read them now. I intend to express my views as I would in ordinary conversation without any idea of making any contribution to literature. Listening yesterday to the able and well prepared speech of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie