

Adjournment Debate

money. Money is important since it is a prerequisite to having bread. This is extremely important in today's world because to survive everyone needs products made by others. Therefore the dollar sign is truly a permit to live. If you have this permit, you can get what you want from the production system. If you do not have this permit, the dollar, you will get nothing and the production system will slow down instead of serving you.

Control of money and credit therefore is the same as the control of peoples' life. It is not a coincidence that one of the highest doctrinal authorities in the world said in the encyclic that manipulators of money and credit hold economic life in their hands, so much so that no one can breathe without their consent. The encyclic has been praised many times. The words of the Pope of the time have been lauded, but his advice has never been followed. We have never tried. We have never made sufficient investigations on the issuing of money and there still are problems that cannot be solved. This is unfortunate. Even though the majority of members of parliament are sincere when they say they would like to find answers, I can tell them that I am convinced that I am right and that those who will live in the years after me will find that out. If the present financial system is not modified, we will continue to be constantly in debt and we will always have the same problems. A change, a radical change is needed in that area, as well as earnest people. Yet there are people who can understand that the money system must be adjusted to the needs of man since money must be a servant not a master.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but it being ten o'clock, in accordance with Standing Order 40, a motion to adjourn the House is deemed to have been moved and seconded at this time. Therefore the question is that the House do now adjourn.

● (2152)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

[*English*]

TRADE—TEXTILES—PURCHASE AND SALE OF IMPORT QUOTAS

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, on February 9 in this House, as recorded in *Hansard* at page 2696, I asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Horner) certain questions respecting the difficulties faced by Canadian importers of footwear, especially those who are importing products that cannot be obtained in Canada. This is because either the fashion or the price cannot be obtained here and there is not much possibility that Canadian manufacturers can realistically make any attempt to supply

[Mr. Dionne (Kamouraska).]

that market. I cited an article from the Vancouver paper the *Province* dated January 30, 1978 under the heading "B.C. shoe industry gets the boot". I quoted at that time some parts of the article but there are other parts I was unable to quote during the question period and which deserve to be put on the record. I quote:

● (2202)

Another segment of the industry hard hit will be the stores specializing in imports. As it looks now, they'll lose one-third of their business with no respite.

"They'll have to ask Ottawa whether the government thinks they should be allowed to exist," said veteran Vancouver shoe retailer Ernie Freedman. Meanwhile, he, like all retailers, must juggle with the confusion created by the fact orders for spring merchandise, placed last fall before quotas were imposed, may have eaten up the quota of the entire year.

Now, faced with buying for fall, the stores find their imports limited and availability of domestic supplies uncertain.

The fact of the matter is that the majority of people in the retail shoe business are not objecting to some import quotas if the result of those quotas is to protect Canadian industry. The growing suspicion is that the quotas are affecting those products which the Canadian manufacturers cannot supply. The result of this is higher prices. The allegation is that the Canadian manufacturers are increasing their prices on general footwear.

On February 23 I asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce a question on a related subject, that of textiles. I asked the minister if he could tell this House whether there was a market building up for the sale and purchase of quotas in textiles. Today I asked the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) the same question, and I also extended it to the problem of shoe quotas. I ask the question over and over again because I am receiving representations that this is exactly what is going on. Since the small operator cannot obtain the quotas he or she need, it seems to me a travesty that other quotas which obviously are in excess of what is needed are being sold for profit within the domestic Canadian market. I refer specifically to an advertisement which appeared in the *Vancouver Sun* on February 4, 1978 for jeans. It says:

Jean or Pant Quota

Willling to purchase available quotas for spring and fall 1978.

Any quantity up to 100,000 pairs. Apply in confidence to—

Then it gives a box number. It is time that the government came clean with the House of Commons and with importers as to its motives, especially with respect to textiles or footwear which cannot be obtained in Canada and which the Canadian manufacturer cannot produce.

I have received innumerable complaints. I have received pleas from importers who, without some redress, are going to go broke. I have consistently received complaints that the machinery set up by the government is not competent to deal with the applications and is being handled in such a way that it is not attuned to market problems, especially in British Columbia.