

Mr. GILLIS: That is it; what are the provisions of the act?

Mr. ISNOR: The hon. member referred to the businessmen, who, he said, were not using the refundable portion of their excess profits tax to expand. As an hon. member of the opposition mentioned, they have not as yet received that refundable portion. Large numbers of men in the so-called free enterprise or incentive class are anxious to expand and are just waiting for the refunds to be made. They are ready to make use of the money as soon as it is available.

Mr. GILLIS: Poor fellows; why don't they get out-of-work benefits if they are so poor?

Mr. ISNOR: Work benefits have nothing whatever to do with the matter. That is the difference between the hon. member and myself. I sit here and listen to him try to expound what he has in mind and do not make any foolish interruptions. When I am dealing with a matter like the refundable portion of the excess profits tax the hon. member interrupts and brings in an altogether different question. If the hon. member wishes to direct an intelligent question—

Mr. GILLIS: You wouldn't understand it.

Mr. ISNOR: —I am quite prepared to take my seat and have him ask that question, if he has something to bring up of a constructive nature or something that will bring out some real information. Otherwise I would ask him to do as I try to do; that is, act the part of a gentleman. I do not say that in an unkindly way, but it is a little lesson I have more or less learned from the hon. member for Calgary West (Mr. Smith), who so often uses an expression like that to bring the rest of us back to a proper sense of proportion.

I should like to follow along the line of the statements made by the hon. member for Royal (Mr. Brooks), who said this was not a new problem. It is an old problem with us, and I admit it. We are in an awkward position in the maritimes. I am anxious to cooperate with anyone, in any part of the house, who will bring forward a solution that will help us there. We have talked over these matters time and again; but unfortunately in our section of the country it would appear almost impossible to bring about industrial development with the principal market one or two thousand miles away. Our own market is limited. Roughly speaking, we have some 600,000 people in Nova Scotia, another 500,000 in New Brunswick and perhaps 100,000 in Prince Edward Island, and that does not represent a market large enough to permit

any real development. In Ontario and Quebec, on the other hand, they have a population of three and a half to four million people almost at their back doors. Naturally that brings down the cost of production to a point that we find it hard to meet in competition.

It is true that we have had some outstanding examples of industrial development in the maritimes. The hon. member for Cape Breton South referred to Halifax, and perhaps that is another reason why I am standing here saying a few words on this occasion. There we have Moirs, known from coast to coast as producers of perhaps the best chocolates made in Canada. They have made a real success of their industry. On previous occasions I have referred to Stanfield's, in the town of Truro, which has also made an outstanding success. I do not wish to repeat what I have said already about that fine firm and the manner in which they have carried on over a long period of years. Also in Halifax we have the Schwartz firm, whose products are known all over Canada. At the present time, however, they are finding it difficult, because they have to buy all their glass containers in central Canada; and the transportation charges on the containers, plus transportation charges back to market, total more than the cost of the products themselves. That is a heavy handicap under which they have to work. Then we have the Lewis firm, also in Truro, which has made a great success, whose hats and caps and ladies' hosiery are sold in every part of Canada. There is Borden's milk, and I could go on with a number of others, but they are all finding the competition very keen. I wonder if perhaps transportation charges and the lack of certain containers, such as I mentioned in connection with the Schwartz firm, do not keep these firms from progressing to a greater extent than they have been able to do up to the present time. In regard to containers, a short time ago I thought we had an opportunity to bring a glass factory into operation in Nova Scotia. I did my best to assist in bringing that about, but unfortunately it has not as yet come to pass. We are still hopeful that we may see such a factory commence operations in Nova Scotia, making bottles, jars and so on to meet our requirements in that respect. We still have some shoe factories in the maritimes; very good shoes are made in Fredericton.

Mr. BROOKS: The Hartt is the best shoe made in Canada.