

that we can take care of over one hundred million people in Alberta and British Columbia alone, because we have got the resources and the territory to do it. I can run that line of thirty thousand million dollars of wealth up if I put the Canadian people to work to three hundred thousand million in twenty-five years, and under an intelligent system of public administration where economic security is established, in a self supporting country—and we are a self supporting country in Canada—we may not be self supporting in a very high standard of living from the point of view of certain luxuries, but we can live pretty well on Canadian products. I can run that line up and I can increase our population to twenty-five million people. I can bring enough Americans across, even putting a tariff immigration barrier on them, that I will not let anybody come into Canada unless he brings \$5,000 of American cash, and I can get enough Americans to come over and give their American currency up to the national bank to liquidate Canada's debts in the United States. Yes, you put in a sound taxation system, a decent system of administration of justice, and you would have no difficulty in getting not only a million Americans but a million Britishers that are living in the United States to come back to Canada and live in the British Empire, and if you bring a million people back with \$5,000, each that is, five thousand million dollars, more than enough to pay your American debt. Now, you asked me how I would get wages into the hands of the people. Just as easily. How did we put the purchasing power into the hands of the people during the war? We put them to work at \$1.10 a day in the the army and we put them to work in factories at \$5 a day, and we paid them interest on the investments they made in national bonds. Do you mean to tell me there is any difficulty in putting wages in the possession of the Canadian people to-day? Why, they are crying for wages, and the merchants are crying to have them possessed of wages so that they can buy. The whole basis of my scheme is the elimination of unemployment, by what? Creating those useful public works and extending those social services that give people decent and intelligent employment in every part of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I would like Mr. McGeer to understand that I am not criticizing his scheme at all, I am merely asking for information, and the thing that occurred to me is, that supposing ordinary banks through whom that credit in future is to be issued declined to issue that credit, I am wondering how it would be accomplished?

The WITNESS: I missed your question, Mr. Euler. I want to answer that.

By Hon. Mr. Euler:

Q. Well, it grew out of the other.—A. I do not think it came before. The national bank, and the provincial banks, finance all governmental expenditures; the merchant banks have nothing to do with that. Now, you say supposing the merchant banking system refuses, for some reason, right or wrong, to advance credits that were necessary, that is, they have deposits and hold them and will not put them out, do you mean to suggest what I would do with them if they did that on purpose as a retaliation against the national banking system

Q. Not necessarily for that reason.—A. I mean, if they did it for that reason, then I would apply the section of the Criminal Code that makes that treason, I would line the boys up. I do not want to deal with a question so important as that facetiously. I have every confidence in the merchant banking system to exercise their privileges under a proper system intelligently, and I venture to say, that in the administration of credit under this system, despite all we might say about the banks in condemnation of those that are responsible for this system, we have got very little complaint to offer to the officials of the Canadian Banking system for the want of or for lack of willingness to co-operate with Canadian business and industry, and Canadian government in working

[Mr. G. G. McGeer]