

completed. I feel that these thousand houses should not be started until the others are finished.

In connection with the wartime houses in Winnipeg—and I can speak of them with authority—the ones built by the government were without foundations or furnaces, and were constructed of green lumber. That lumber is all shrinking, and I understand these buildings cost \$4,000 or \$5,000 each. The other day it was suggested that they be sold to the people who occupied them, and the largest offer received was \$2,500. That is very disastrous. These places are going to cost the people of this country 50 per cent on all the money put into them, and they are going to make slum districts of the parts of the cities where they are built. So much for housing.

Now I come to controls. I should like to say on controls what I really think, but as the honourable leader of the government just said, bills dealing with this problem are coming down next week. I would just have to repeat myself all over again if I went into it now. But I shall say this: I read the announcement of the Prime Minister yesterday in which he said that there would be a period of price controls, followed by a gradual removal. The controls may last for several months, but they cannot be cut off too soon to satisfy me. The sooner this is done, the sooner we shall get back to major production. There is no doubt about it. Take, for instance, shirts. The prices on shirts were regulated and it was said that a certain kind of shirt would cost \$4.25 made-to-order. I was never able to purchase a made-to-order shirt for that amount; I always had to pay \$5.00. This year I could get a shirt with three separate collars for \$6.50. But the Wartime Prices and Trade Board said, "No, sir, you cannot have that shirt"; yet the manufacturer was allowed to make a fancy shirt and charge \$10.00 for it. That is the situation under price control. The manufacturers do not make the articles that are under control—Why would they?—but they do manufacture the articles that are not under control, and that use up just as much material. The bills relating to controls will be coming to us in the near future, and we shall then have an opportunity to deal with these problems.

I am disturbed about the trade situation in which Canada finds herself at the present time. The other day the Minister of Trade and Commerce said that in 1946 Canada had enjoyed the largest trade of any peacetime year in her history. But what did we do? We paid cash for the goods we bought, and at the same time we sold our goods on credit and we lent the money to those who

purchased them. I refer particularly to Great Britain. Why should she not buy our goods? We gave her the money. Lord knows, she will not pay it back! We also loaned two millions to France. How much has she got left?

Hon. Mr. JOHNSTON: Is my honourable friend opposed to the policy of loaning money to Great Britain?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I thought that the honourable member for Central Saskatchewan would ask a question such as that, and I am prepared for it. I am as willing as anybody to lend money to Great Britain, but I do not think that it will do any good if the British people are going to work forty hours a week when we in this country have to work fifty or sixty hours a week, I do not think that is good business for this country or any other country. Great Britain has the money; she is using it up. The other day Mr. Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that Great Britain was living on "tick". "Tick" is a good old English word; I heard it first when I was a boy and I do not think I need to explain what it means. If that condition does exist there is no reason under the sun why we should walk into it. In Britain they are trying out socialism and if socialism cannot be made to succeed in that country or in any other country except by borrowing money—and I do not think it can—it will disappear. Experience the world over has been that you cannot get as much production out of industry under government control as under private control. Honourable senators will remember that during the First World War the production of coal in Britain fell rapidly under government control but that once the government control was lifted production increased again. They are concerned about government control of coal over there now.

Hon. Mr. MORAUD: They are freezing.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: They are not only freezing; they are starving. People in my city are sending money through the Hudson Bay Company and the Eaton Company to Denmark, for goods to be shipped to Britain to help pull them through. I am a Britisher, and my boy fought for Canada, just as thousands of other boys did; but there is no use doing something which at the very start you know is going to fail. That is the kind of thing we are doing now.

What is the government's policy regarding trade? What is going to happen when the lending of money stops? We can sell goods in our own country, but we certainly cannot sell goods to European countries if we do not lend them money to pay their accounts. I