

Then we have to send our children to school. No one will object to that except a few cranks. I suggest that the reason free institutions have been maintained in British countries so much longer than anywhere else is that we have not invaded the people's rights any more than we have needed to. We have left them as much freedom as possible. I would commend this argument to you by just reading a paragraph from the report. I suggest that this shows what happens or what may happen every time we begin to control. Every step we take in the way of control leads us into so much of this sort of thing. This reads:

The price ceiling on used automobiles has proven extraordinarily difficult to enforce.

I would think it would. I think I am a law-abiding man and I am a rather timid man. I think even if I had wanted to sell my old car I would not have done it, and that would have been partly out of fear. But I can imagine the ordinary citizen asking himself why in heaven's name he should not be allowed to sell his used car. Why it should be regarded as a necessity which should be controlled has never been clear to me. However, it is not controlled now and I will say no more about it. This continues:

The demand for automobiles has been exceptionally heavy and the production of new vehicles to supply that demand has been so beset with shortages and other difficulties that the demand has pressed heavily on the existing supply of used automobiles. Enforcement problems here are concerned not only with organized gangs but also with the irresponsible "fly-by-night" type of illegal dealer and with the private individual who attempts to obtain an excessive price for his own automobile.

I suggest that hon. gentlemen consider where they have to go once you get into controls. Let me quote the last sentence, which reads:

All types of alleged offenders must be checked if the prices of used cars are to be controlled, yet the number of sales of such vehicles is so great that it is almost impossible to keep up with the work of investigation and prosecution.

I was going to say persecution, but it is prosecution. I submit very earnestly for the consideration of this house that that is a relevant matter. I go back again and say that when you have these controls, they have to be enforced or it makes a fool of every one. That is a matter for consideration.

I want to say a word about the planned economy I have tried to picture, this over-all planning with its thousands of thousands of officials which enter into the people's daily lives. I understand that Mr. Strachey said the other day that this justified the use of

something like *agents provocateurs* in order to find infractions of the regulations. It is reported that he said that that was justified I suppose when you get into this business you have to be efficient. If you are going to control people, you have to control them and you have to do the things that are necessary. No doubt that is the answer that will be given. That is one side of the question.

The other side is that people are trying their best to produce. I was shocked the other day when the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Zaplitny) made the remark that he did not think the manufacturers were interested in production, they were just interested in profits and money. He gave a very harsh and unflattering picture of our manufacturers. I put it to hon. members here in this house; is that a true picture? Is this a group of people who somehow or other are so different from the rest of us, who are so wicked that they are pursuing a life which is reprehensible to all the rest of us? I suggest that that picture is exaggerated.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: I did not call them wicked.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): I am only interpreting what the hon. member said, but he did say that the manufacturer was not interested in production. I have had a fairly considerable experience with business men and I would say that the ordinary business man is interested primarily in doing a good job. He is interested in making profit, of course. I remember one business man who was doing a very good job. He was turning out the best article he could at the lowest price. He used to say that profit was a by-product, that if a man did a good enough job and did it well enough, he would make a profit. That man was interested primarily in doing a good job, and I suggest that that is true of most manufacturers.

Another great advantage in carrying on privately is that they find out if they are wrong. These men are checking each other. We talk about the profit system, but it should be called the profit and loss system. It has been said in this house that the manufacturer fixes his own prices. He does nothing of the kind. If he fixed his own prices, would there be the failures we see at every turn? Of course there would not. As long as there is competition he does not fix his own prices. I will come back to this question of competition, but I see my time is running out and I must hurry on.

I do not want to sit down without doing justice to the point which I said I would try to do justice to, and that is the failures on the part of the private enterprise system. I