

I would have thought that in reference to these matters my hon. friends of the C.C.F. would have been able to see eye to eye with us; for I have often heard them refer in this house to extravagance and to the discouragement of production. But in their sub-amendment they moved to strike out the references to extravagance and to the curtailment of production. Their amendment, innocuous in the extreme, points out among other things that the exemptions of those in the lower income brackets have not been raised sufficiently. With that there is no disagreement. They point out also that there should be investment of public funds to bridge the gap between anticipated private investment and unemployment. With that there can be no serious disagreement either, because it represents the point of view of those who believe in private enterprise. Reference is then made to the failure to set up a social security measure that will assure a reasonable standard of economic security for all Canadians, with which there can be no disagreement. Finally, they say that the budget fails in its proposals to recognize the principle that cooperatives are non-profit-making organizations.

A true cooperative, Mr. Speaker, is a non-profit organization and as such is not liable to taxation. The amendment of the C.C.F. is a far cry from the socialism of last year, or even of two years ago; for it contains no reference to socialism or a socialized economy in this dominion. All that is gone. I am wondering whether the experience of two years in office in Saskatchewan has convinced my hon. friends that socialized enterprise does not operate to the benefit of the country or the state.

Mrs. STRUM: We did not lose our deposits.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: It is amazing how my hon. friends can refer to Tories and cast aspersions at those on the government side of the house; but when one faces facts, the chattering invariably begins in all parts of the corner in which my hon. friends sit. Now, as I look at that subamendment—

Mrs. STRUM: The cooperators are still voting C.C.F.

Mr. KNOWLES: Are you going to vote for it?

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Well, there is nothing in it by itself that cannot be supported, because my hon. friends have diluted it down. As a matter of fact, from this sub-amendment one can only conclude that my hon. friends are engaged in the great retreat

from socialism. Much is made of cooperatives, and my hon. friends would have the house and the country believe that cooperation is similar to socialism, or that there is something in common between them. But the only thing in common between cooperation and socialism is the fact that a few years ago "cooperative" was made part of the name of the party to my immediate left. Cooperation is free enterprise.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: My hon. friends say "oh, oh". I am going to quote for their information from a report of the most successful cooperative in the province of Saskatchewan, the Davidson Cooperative Association. In its annual report the point I am now making is made clear and definite so that all can understand it. But, before I quote from the report let me go back to that cooperator, the great authority on the subject, Mr. Holyoake. He pointed out that socialism and cooperation are not the same. He said:

Socialism works from the top down, cooperation from the bottom up.

Mr. COLDWELL: What year was that?

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Well, sir, has socialism changed? There is something in that question by my hon. friend because they appear to have changed in the corner. They have changed in the last year in this house, and they have certainly changed their opinions since 1935, 1936, and 1937. No wonder my hon. friend the leader of the C.C.F. asks what year was that.

Mr. COLDWELL: Yes, what year was it? Was it 1841?

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: The point of view of socialism and the socialist members in the house appears to have changed with the changing years. May I say, Mr. Speaker, that all I ask of my hon. friends is that they allow me to hear the interruptions that are being made. If I hear them I will answer them. I was going to quote from the report to which I have referred, which was made on April 17. It is the annual report of this cooperative:

Cooperation is not socialism. There is a current tendency to confuse cooperative enterprise with socialism, or state ownership of the means of production and services. Your board is convinced that they are opposite in their conception and diverse in their results.

A little while ago my hon. friends challenged me, and my answer is the words of a great cooperative in Saskatchewan. If they want any extensive quotations they will have to look at the report themselves, because time will not allow me to read extensive quotations.