

Mr. ABBOTT: I have had no practice in that.

Mr. HACKETT: If there were some indication that this government intended to quit, intended to recede from the position it has taken, I am sure that there are many people in this group who would say we do not want to be unreasonable; but because we can see no hope, no intent, no wish, no willingness to get away from these shackles, we say and I say we are against it, we want the people to know where we stand and why. We have nothing to enable us to pass judgment upon the legislation which is submitted because nobody has given any reason for it other than that it is government policy.

Another question which was asked was, "Do you object to the Canadian dollar being at par?" I do not object to the Canadian dollar being at par, but I want the Canadian dollar to be where it should be in the judgment of people who know values and have learned values in the harsh school of buying and selling. The difficulty with the Canadian dollar to-day, if it is two or three cents below parity in the markets of New York, is not that the Canadian dollar is worth less than the United States dollar; it is that the people of the United States are fearful that somebody without responsibility will mark it up or down, will do something with it which cannot be foreseen. That is the weakness of the Canadian dollar to-day. The Canadian dollar and the Canadian people are sound. The weaknesses of the dollar arise from the tampering with it, from the legislation which places the foreigner at the discretion of people who are not in trade and whose experience is not in real values.

As I said yesterday, I do not wish any of the gentlemen whose duty it is to operate this foreign exchange control fund to feel that because I cannot agree with their philosophy and management I am criticizing them personally. I am willing to believe that they are sincere and that they are doing what they think is right; but the result is that we cannot perform the smallest act which is reflected in dollars and cents without seeking the let or hindrance of the government or some of its minions; that is not a desirable situation.

Last evening we were talking about exports. An amendment was introduced freeing farmers and fishermen from the obligation of getting a permit when exporting their produce monthly up to an amount of \$100. The amendment failed. I tell you, Mr. Chairman, one thing that we are exporting very rapidly and at great cost—our youth, our young men and young women of vigour and hope, who

find themselves denied an opportunity in this country. I shall read a letter which I received only yesterday from an involuntary exile:

Bill has a very nice proposition awaiting him in—

There is an American city named, which I need not read.

He worked at it for six weeks, and he is now on leave of absence. We are looking over the Canadian scene, so far with a notable lack of success. The newspapers are howling about ten thousand-odd Canadians who have crossed into the United States since the war, but so far as we can see there are no jobs to be had in Canada, at least jobs that pay or offer a future. I hate leaving Canada in every respect, but am beginning to fear we have no alternative.

The spirit that has inspired this bill, Mr. Chairman, is a spirit which has denied opportunity to Canadian youth in many spheres. It is that spirit which has taken aviation out of the competitive realm and put it under the dominion government. It is the spirit which has made the C.B.C. an overlord, the same spirit that is crowding out private enterprise, stifling the private stations. It is the spirit which is preventing the young Canadian engineer, the young Canadian chemist, the young Canadian doctor from getting jobs in Canada, driving them away to the United States.

I regret most sincerely that we should be faced with legislation of this type, especially when there is no reason for it. If it could be justified; if there was anything that could be said in support of it other than that it is government policy, I am sure the people on this side of the house would be willing to listen. This entire policy of the bill is the policy of hon. gentlemen of the C.C.F. I do not begrudge them their views, but I do not sympathize with them and I cannot share them. Just why the government, the party opposite, should have adopted the programme of the C.C.F. is beyond the imagination of man to comprehend. I ask myself, where is the Liberal party? Where are the people who stood for private enterprise in other days? Where are the great advocates of Liberalism? It may be that we shall have to wait until this measure is taken to another forum, to another place, as it is called. It may be that in the senate there still lingers a flickering of the Liberal spirit which contributed so much to Canada's greatness.

Mr. ABBOTT: Mr. Chairman, I shall not attempt to rise to the heights of moving oratory displayed by the hon. member for Stanstead, because I am not capable of doing so. He raised two or three points, however, to which I want to make brief reference.