

Suggested Interest-free Loans

In addition to the kind of credit we have been discussing, there are many others: international, national, provincial, municipal, import, export, credit for purchasing, credit for sales. Indeed our country has advanced so much in the field of credit under our present financial system that we grant credit to foreign countries for the purchase of our products.

Here in Canada, many Canadians are born, live and die on credit. People are continually in tow of the publicity heard on television or radio. A lot of them are feeding themselves with instant products, three minutes meals, and are relying on automatic machines bought on credit. All those rogues have helped many families get head over ears in debt.

But, we need not loose heart, our credit is still good with the finance companies which will provide us with the credit we need to balance our budget for the time being. It is even possible to purchase on credit a second-hand car at the cheapest possible price, in spite of all the hazards this implies in terms of highway safety.

However, the whole process by which these various terms and conditions of credit are established is directed, controlled, managed and monopolized by the system which issues bank credit.

Things controlled by man are subject to the human laws of production, exchange and purchasing power. This power is expressed in a practical way by monetary values. Money is to the exchange of goods what words are to the exchange of ideas. Production and consumption are thus related to the purchasing power or to the exchange power.

If we consider the world as a whole, we realize there is a blockage, an obstruction. For instance, the farming people in Canada are seriously threatened by overproduction due to deviation of consumption. The accumulated surpluses of Canadian wheat are equivalent to eight years of consumption. The dairy products of Canada are anxiously waiting for consumers. In 1969, overproduction of milk in Canada reached one billion pounds of milk or 100 million gallons. Lawyers have now come to the point where they are inverting the order of creation by saying to the farm producers: "Stop sowing; kill your cows."

A premium of \$200 is about to be granted to the milk producers in six countries of the Common Market for every milk cow slaughtered.

[Mr. Dionne.]

Too poor to buy their own products, Canadians eat imported foods and chemical products sold at bargain prices. While underfed people are lacking milk and wheat, Canadian citizens, surrounded by mountains of wheat and heaps of milk cans, are suffering from hunger and from thirst.

Capitalis, the object of which is to regularize means of exchange is therefore in a bad conditoin. It should be corrected but not destroyed.

Instead of laying our economic system upon logical principles, upon the natural pattern, we remain tied to a system which does not provide the necessary means of distributing the existing abundance. Thus thousands of Canadian citizens must live in slums while there are enormous quantities of building materials available for the building of decent homes.

Thousands of Canadian citizens have to resort to social relief so as not to suffer too much from hunger, in a country offering through all possible advertising means such a great variety of products. Macaulay wrote in "The History of England":

The stability of the modern world is based upon the stability of its money, but it is obvious that the value of currency is unstable.

Whether all hardships inflicted upon the British people by bad kings, bad Parliaments, bad ministers and bad judges are not equal to the hardships due to the poor currency is doubtful—

A sound currency, namely a currency that keeps its stability through the repayment of debts and its purchasing power and which protects the purchasing power of salaries, savings and pensions, is the key to economic freedom, to progress and to development.

The end and objective of a monetary policy are therefore to maintain the dollar stability and to be the instrument of a maximum production. Indeed, next to the maintenance of law and order in a country, that should be the greatest responsibility of the state.

Everybody admits that the value of currency is based on goods and services. A steady balance should however be provided between the money issued and the production of goods.

It is unbelievable that governments, one after another, should have allowed private banks to create and issue millions of dollars in new currency without any obligation on their part of maintaining the stability of the purchasing power.

• (8:50 p.m.)

We do not want to disrupt everything or to set up a printing-shop, as some simple-mind-