

decisions arrived at under such conditions that the unity and harmony we all desire can be achieved.

To satisfy this house that Mr. Gardiner's action must have received the disapproval of his leader in Ottawa, I find that he did not follow along the lines of his confession of repentance very long. During the last session of the Saskatchewan legislature we had him making declarations in favour of the so-called sessionists. Let me quote from the Regina Leader-Post of January 13, 1931, which reports Mr. Gardiner as follows:

We have more in common with our natural customers in Britain than with this group of bloated plutocrats in Toronto and Montreal who fatten on our labour, declared the Liberal chieftain. I am far more concerned with keeping the empire together than in the relation between Regina and Montreal.

That is how our friends in Saskatchewan uphold the doctrines of unity that are preached so eloquently in the halls of Ottawa.

Let me say that there is no substantial secessionist movement in western Canada, and the people there, when they read the press, will resent the suggestion from the leader of the Liberal party in this house that the west is secessionist or that the people in the west are.

Some hon. MEMBERS: He never said so.

Mr. TURNBULL: If my hon. friends will turn to page 25 of Hansard they will find the words.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Will the hon. member state what the leader of the opposition said?

Mr. GUTHRIE: Read page 25 of Hansard.

Mr. TURNBULL: He said this:

If western Canada feels the policies of hon. gentlemen opposite are not suited to the needs of western Canada, then it is not for the people of western Canada to talk about secession or anything of that kind.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. RALSTON: Go on.

Mr. TURNBULL: The only talk of secession in western Canada arose from a meeting of six gentlemen in the town of Wilkie in the constituency of my hon. friend from South Battleford (Mr. Vallance).

Mr. VALLANCE: And it is not correct.

Mr. TURNBULL: And the only person who knows about secession in western Canada is the hon. gentleman who represents that constituency. With regard to the Imperial conference I have very little to say. For

[Mr. Turnbull.]

the first time within my recollection, in the history of imperial conferences, and I speak subject to correction, there were taken to that gathering representatives of the grain marketing interests of Canada, including representatives of the farming interests and western economists, in the persons of Mr. John I. McFarland, a retired grain merchant, Dr. D. A. MacGibbon, vice-chairman of the Board of Grain Commissioners, Dr. W. W. Swanson, head of the department of Economics of the university of Saskatchewan, and Mr. A. J. McPhail, president of the central selling agency of the Canadian wheat pool. There was at least an attempt on the part of those who represented Canada at that conference to solve the wheat marketing problem of western Canada, and until that conference is closed no one has any right to say that these wheat marketing problems will not be solved.

So far as the conduct of the Prime Minister at that conference is concerned, and so far as his proposals go, I can only say that they had the approval of the financial interests of Great Britain. They were accepted by the Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin, and they had the support of all the other dominion premiers at the conference, the only exception being the Prime Minister of the motherland. And they had the support of these professors and economists who went with the Prime Minister from Ottawa.

I have here a statement made in Toronto by Professor Swanson, reported under date of November 28, 1930. He is not a follower of the Conservative party, but he is reported to have said:

Dr. Swanson declared himself a born free trader, but nevertheless he was actively in favour of Premier Bennett's preference offer. In supporting it in London, he declared: "I conceived that I was doing more service to the ideal world freedom of trade than I could have accomplished in any other manner—I felt I was assisting at the mobilization of the greatest army in history for the penetration of unjust trade barriers raised by foreign powers."

And this out and out free trader added:

The Imperial conference was an outstanding personal success for the Prime Minister of Canada.

For my part I would rather accept the opinion of Doctor Swanson than anything I have heard here since the opening of the session. But let us discuss Canada, because it is in the present condition of Canada that we are interested. I have listened, during the few days the house has been in session, for some suggestion from hon. gentlemen opposite as to what cure could be put into effect for the known economic ills of the country and I have