

fishermen on our inland waters, as well as those on our seacoasts, will have to rehabilitate their equipment. If we add to the farmers and the fishermen those who are engaged in other vocations and who must increase or establish their activities in the spring of each year, we find we have a million people spending anywhere from \$100 to \$300 each. This means that \$200,000,000 or more will be used up by primary industry and will not be available for the victory loan. In order to meet this situation I make a suggestion which I hope will be considered constructive. Our primary producers should be given an opportunity to subscribe in the spring and to pledge payment with the harvest.

Last year we gave the United Kingdom a billion dollar credit, made up of food and supplies. Along with the repatriation of securities, this is now a part of Canadian war expenditures.

Mr. BLACKMORE: Louder, please.

Mr. HARRIS (Danforth): I invite my hon. friend to come and take a seat here close to me. He will then be able to hear what I am saying.

This is now part of our Canadian war expenditures and should be a matter of study and review—in this regard I am expressing my own opinion—by the banking and commerce committee of this House of Commons. I suggest this because some agents of Hitler have been confusing the public mind by telling them that the United Kingdom sold a good portion of these gifts to other members of the united nations who are fighting our battles in the south Pacific and in North Africa. The budget this year provides ways and means for a billion dollars to the united nations. The Hyde Park agreement assists us in making this possible, but in order to allay criticism in the minds of our people against such gifts, the whole matter should be reviewed by the banking and commerce committee and reported to the house.

I also make the observation that every possible expansion of our trade with the western hemisphere should be explored. Ten years ago we received the benefits of the empire trade agreements. They did a great deal to re-establish Canada as a great trading nation. The war requirements of the United Kingdom are helping us to-day to maintain our export position as far as the natural products and war supplies produced by this country are concerned. Our exports are ever increasing to the United Kingdom. The billion dollar credit to the United Kingdom has made this possible.

I have no objection to the billion dollar appropriation to the united nations. In fact,

[Mr. J. H. Harris.]

the Hyde Park agreement on the one hand, and the courageous offensive of the Russian people and the long suffering tenacity of China on the other, make it imperative that we support the cause of the united nations. At the same time our allies in the united nations will not deny us the privilege as well-grown cubs to support the mother lion of Britain in her days of travail. Much more will this be so when we bring to the attention of the united nations the fact that thousands of our finest sons and daughters, in common with those of other units of the empire, stand shoulder to shoulder with Britons in defence of freedom.

I come now to the matter of the trade of Canada. There seems to have been a falling off in the discussion of ways and means of increasing our trade, which we all realize is and recognize as the blood-stream of the economic life of this country. I am glad the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. MacKinnon) is in his seat. I say to him that we have not had very much success in expanding our trade as far as the western hemisphere is concerned. I hope he has some plan with regard to trade to lay on the table of this house or discuss when he comes to speak on this budget. The usual budget speech in days gone by contained a lot about trade, but he will find very little about it in this budget speech.

Mr. SLAGHT: Will the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. HARRIS (Danforth): In accordance with the aims of the Atlantic charter Canada should join in setting up effective national measures with a view to making world resources available for the satisfaction of human needs. That was a long sentence, Mr. Speaker, and I wanted to get it on the record before permitting this interruption.

Mr. SLAGHT: Does the hon. member not think it fair to suggest that the reason why we have not increased our trade with South America is transportation difficulties? They are primarily responsible for the absence of a showing for the time being.

Mr. HARRIS (Danforth): That is patent on the surface. Anybody who reads the press would know that. At the same time there is no reason why we should not have some word from the minister as to what he has in his mind for the future. We have a great opportunity to cooperate with the united nations and organize our trade in such a way that we shall assure our people of gainful occupation and a high standard of living, and at the same time assure a fair price to the consumers. To reach these objectives it will