

The Address—Mr. Blackmore

An hon. Member: What about the Social Credit party?

Mr. Blackmore: Social Credit literature is full of it; and if the hon. member will look into it and prepare himself he will understand it. He cannot if he does not prepare himself, any more than he could understand algebra if he did not give it some thought.

What answer would the leader of the official opposition give if he were asked the same question about using social credit principles by the Right Hon. C. D. Howe? I wonder how long the Minister of Trade and Commerce would last before him? I imagine it would be just a little bit shorter time than he would last before the Liberal party.

It is too bad one has to say this about the Progressive Conservative party, but one hears long speeches, as we did yesterday from the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew),—excellent, beautiful, sonorous speeches, delivered with great dignity, and all the rest of it. They make a fine appearance—but there is not one single hint of what to do about our problems, not one single suggestion that they really understand what is wrong. I say we have a right to a little more than that.

If the Prime Minister were so courageous as to give Mr. Howe the green light as regards Social Credit, as I have suggested, I am wondering what the Department of Finance would do? Would they co-operate with Mr. Howe? These questions must all be answered before all the talk about solving our problems can mean anything at all.

Here we are with thirteen and a half million people, one of the richest countries on the face of the earth in resources, human and material. We have a fine accumulation of capital in our railroads, our banks and our industries. We have everything that it takes to manage this country and make it a country in which everybody would be happy to live—everything except just a little bit of common sense.

Anyone must realize that when people are living in a very rich country and are mortally afraid of increasing production beyond a certain point for fear prices will go down and everything come to ruin, then there must be something fundamentally wrong with their thinking—when it is believed that the more production you are capable of, the worse off you will be and the more you will have to worry about. Whenever the Liberals get to feeling that they can make light of what other people say, in such a situation, the time has come for them to tackle the problem themselves in the dark hours of the night until they reach a solution. It just does not make sense to do otherwise.

I hope hon. members will tolerate me when I put forward a supposition that is rather far-fetched. I am going to suppose that the right hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) would come to the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) as he will have to when he gets all the facts. He comes to the Prime Minister and says, "I have been giving a lot of thought to the problems which confront us, to this shortage of dollars that is everywhere apparent within our own country and out of it, to the fluctuation of prices and the general dangers, and have come to the conclusion that there is only one possible solution, the solution which the Social Crediters offer."

An hon. Member: That is far-fetched.

Mr. Blackmore: I said it would be, but it is correct. It is just as correct as the radio was correct 75 years ago, but hon. members of that time never knew it. He would say, "I find that Social Credit means the use of the full productive capacity of the community working together to produce desired goods." Then the right hon. minister would go on to say: "Full production requires that money shall be the servant of the producers. In other words, when a farmer wants to produce sheep and the nation needs sheep, he could get money to produce sheep. Full production requires that the consumers shall be able to consume our production as well as what we trade our production for."

"This means that money must also be sufficient in the hands of the consumers as well as in the hands of the producers. The key to our problem then must be money."

"How would Social Crediters proceed if they were dealing with the complex problem with which we are now confronted? A Social Credit administration would accept as a definite principle of national policy that the Canadian finance department would create debt-free Canadian dollars sufficient to enable consumers to consume Canadian production." There should not be any serious objection to that, should there? If we create dollar bills to lend for production, why not create them to be put into circulation to consume our production?

An hon. Member: What about wheat?

Mr. Blackmore: The hon. member will remember that I said what we produced or what we exchanged our production for, although he may not have caught that. If we cannot buy all our wheat ourselves we cannot buy the goods for which the wheat is traded when they get here. That is quite obvious and I am sure the hon. member sees it.