

I am entirely in agreement with the conclusions in that paragraph. Notwithstanding all the relief that has been afforded to the people of Canada there is still in some cases stark hunger, undernourishment, lack of clothing, homelessness and despair. I do not think anyone can deny the truth enunciated in this first paragraph of the preamble of this resolution. The second paragraph reads:

And whereas the prevalence of the present depression throughout the world indicates fundamental defects in the existing economic system;

I find myself largely but not wholly in agreement with the statement contained in that paragraph. I would amend it slightly to make it read as follows:

And whereas the prevalence of the present depression throughout the world indicates defects in the existing economic system or in the management and administration of the same;

With that amendment, I would find myself in agreement with my hon. friend.

Hon. members say that conditions in our country are no worse than in others and that we should not advertise our woes. I firmly believe that until every hon. member of this house is filled with a sense of horror at the injustice of the conditions to which I have just referred; until we rise up as one man and say that they shall end; until we realize that there is within this land sufficient to supply the necessities of life to every man, woman and child, and affirm that they shall be supplied; until we rise up and say that the material needs of our people shall be met so that they may enjoy healthy bodies and contented minds, the story cannot be told too often. I believe that the defects to which I have referred are possible of remedy. If the members of this House of Commons and the legislatures of our land fail to do their very utmost to remedy these conditions, they cannot have any cause of complaint if they are replaced by others who may undertake to cure them even though they may later fail to carry out their undertaking.

There are three or four evils which must be faced. One of them is the unequal distribution of the proceeds of labour. Another the unequal distribution of wealth. Yet another is our failure to restrain the activities of great financiers and financial interests who have loaded industry with capital structures that have no relation at all to the value of the assets of the industries they control. These interests now call upon the government to raise duties, and upon management to make profits, in order that they may pay dividends to shareholders whom they have already despoiled of their capital. The

Premier of Quebec at a public meeting recently made the statement that the original capital invested in power, pulp and paper companies of eastern Canada did not exceed \$30,000,000, but that this capital has been enlarged, watered, until to-day it amounts to \$714,000,000, with assets worth less than \$25,000,000. An hon. member in the house a few days ago referred to stock in a certain textile company which, he stated, originally cost \$10 and had been inflated to a nominal value of \$1,620. I am informed that stock in the Imperial Oil Company, originally worth \$100, is now worth \$1,200. It seems to me that this is one of the conditions that will have to be remedied. It will have to be made impossible for financiers to despoil the people to that extent.

Then there is the restraint that has been placed upon trade by high tariffs, resulting in each country endeavouring to constitute itself a self-sufficient economic unit, the impoverishing consequences of which are incalculable and finally we have a money system that is inadequate to the needs of the times, managed, and naturally so, under existing circumstances, with a view to profit for the shareholders instead of for the good of the people as a whole.

So far I find myself largely in agreement with the mover of the resolution and his lieutenants. This brings me to what the hon. member calls a "definite program." The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, after using the words I have just quoted, said:

It is only the newer groups, however, that have had the courage to set this before the country in the form of a definite program.

Is it definite? It is definite to this extent and this only: that it proposes that the system which we now have shall be replaced by another which has not been clearly defined. I wish the hon. member were in his seat at present, because I should like to criticize—and I shall do so in any case—one of the remarks he made. It is a little unfortunate that some of our friends in the south-east corner—and I know they will take this criticism kindly—will persist in declaring their superiority over the rest of us. They rejoice in and constantly proclaim their independence, their courage, their patriotism, their freedom from party control. In this case the hon. gentleman neither broadened nor strengthened his influence by emulating the renowned gentleman who went up into the temple to pray and who became so conscious of his moral rectitude that he ended, not by praying, but by thanking the Lord that he was not as other men. I feel also that those of his