

The Address—Mr. A. W. Stuart

world trade, and must be undersold by mass production in America and by the goods of low-wage countries.

There is one problem I found there that I fail to understand, and it has never been fully explained to me. I do not understand why Great Britain is trading with countries whose produce is produced by slave labour. They are trading with some of those countries in preference to Canada. I realize that they may buy more cheaply in those countries than they can buy in Canada, but today, with world conditions as they are, I feel that after the wonderful contribution Canada has made to Great Britain we should at least have a preference over those countries. Another passage of this pamphlet reads:

Preference is to be eliminated and empire markets handed over to foreigners.

That expression pretty much designates the United States of America as a foreign country; and I wonder just how some members of the British parliament must feel when they read literature of that character. In view of their contribution during the last war I believe the United States deserves something better than to be called a foreign country, and I think they would be perfectly justified in expecting something more than that. I am reminded of the plant in Birmingham where Austin cars are manufactured. When we were overseas, much of the steel in that plant came from the United States. That steel was shipped to Britain under ERP; the cars were manufactured and shipped back to the United States, where they were sold in competition with cars manufactured in that country. I believe the United States has gone a long way in helping Britain get back on her feet, and I believe they deserve more credit than they are receiving at the present time.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I was greatly amazed to find that salmon canned in Russia was being sold in England while Canadian canned salmon was being held in warehouses on the Pacific coast. You will remember that in this country in wartime salmon was in very short supply. We shut off the export of raw and canned salmon to all other countries in order that the greatest possible quantities might be shipped to Britain. Today I believe the canners of British Columbia are greatly worried over the large amount of canned salmon they have on hand, with no markets. I also discovered that England was shipping tin plate

to Russia in exchange for other commodities. So I believe it would be difficult for Britain to explain why she should be dealing with countries that produce by means of forced labour in preference to trading with countries that have tried in every way to deal squarely with her.

Mr. Young: They have no dollars.

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): My hon. friend says they have no dollars. In reply let me say that we have had a dollar problem in our own country, brought about to a large extent by the fact that we have given and loaned materials to Britain which we might have sold elsewhere for the dollars we lack today. That is my personal opinion. I was very much discouraged to discover that apparently we in this country have little chance of benefiting from the British market for some time to come. When it is remembered that this country, with a population of twelve or thirteen million, has contributed in loans and gifts to Britain over five billion dollars, one might be justified in the hope that first consideration should be given this country, but that is not being done at the present time. I know other delegates who discussed these matters with members of the British government left Britain with the same feeling.

As I said before, and I want to emphasize for just a moment, trade that passes through a one-way street can never be successful; and this one-way trade has been going on for some years. I believe the time has come when this country must find some other place to do business. Perhaps we will have to go further afield and find other markets; but there is a limit to just how far a country of twelve or thirteen million people can go in the way of gifts and loans, with nothing in return.

On motion of Mr. Stuart (Charlotte) the debate was adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Fournier (Hull) moved the adjournment of the house.

He said: We will continue this debate tomorrow.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.55 p.m.