

our system of economics and our way of life is on trial today as never before. On the one side there are the United States and the other countries which in varying degrees share our views; on the other side is Russia and those countries whose views differ so widely from ours; in between is the great mass of people who have not made up their minds one way or the other, and who are in doubt as to what course to take. I am convinced that if Canada goes from excess to excess, with a continual piling up of wage increases and augmented costs of production, the crash will come with terrific force. If our economic system were to be tried and found wanting, what substitute would there be for it? With such a spectacle before them, what would be the thoughts of those countries of the world which are sitting on the sidelines?

Honourable senators, I believe that Canada not only is greatly responsible for the welfare of her own people, but is morally obliged to join in providing other countries with a standard of living that will discourage the growth of communism within their bounds.

If we think through the problems which face us and deal with them in a spirit of full confidence and the resolution to build the best possible national economy, we need have no particular fear of a spread of communism. People, no matter who they are, desire to be free and to enjoy the highest obtainable standard of living. If we so act that our national economy can withstand the scrutiny and survive the test of those who would find fault with it; if we can so order our affairs that there shall be no recurrence of the terrible experiences which befell us between 1931 and 1933, we shall not need to worry much about

the impact of communism on this country or other countries which follow our way of thinking. But if we fail to approach our problems with these purposes in mind, and therefore fail to solve them, there will be before us times of great anxiety, because we shall be menaced not only with bayonets but with the activities of those who come to our country impelled by a different point of view.

During the discussion of agricultural matters, particularly in the West, I have been surrounded by experts whose knowledge of the complex subjects involved is so much greater than my own that, recognizing my inability to answer successfully my honourable friend opposite, I shall leave the matter to them. My honourable friend is skilled in the law and in matters pertaining to western agriculture. But I urge him, whatever the temporary problems with which he or his constituency are faced, to be of good faith, because it is to be remembered that despite their difficulties agriculturists never before have been as prosperous as they are today; never were they in so sound a financial position to face the future. I would add also that never have they contributed more to the general welfare of the country. The conditions to which my honourable friend referred in such forcible terms are not such as should worry him particularly, because they will be dealt with, as far as any government can deal with such conditions, with the same care and success as has characterized the administration in the past.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. Howard the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.