

past three years; that is what we are promised—or worse—in the coming three years; and I am afraid that, if this thing continues, this country with its “welfare-state-ism” will eventually be driven to bankruptcy.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Laing: Would the honourable senator permit a question?

Hon. Mr. O’Leary: Yes, indeed.

Hon. Mr. Laing: As I was listening to his vigorous and remarkable speech I was wishing that I were 18 years older so that I could talk like that.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: That will come.

Hon. Mr. Laing: The honourable senator said that 70-odd per cent—I think the figure is actually 76 per cent—of the goods consumed by Canadians are produced within Canada, and that it should be within the competence of the government, therefore, to see that those prices are kept down. What he must be advocating is a two-price system in Canada for every item, and I would remind him that, if that is what he is suggesting, the only advocates of that policy are Mr. Lewis and the NDP.

Hon. Mr. O’Leary: My answer to that is quite clear. What I am advocating is the policy enunciated by my leader that we take a breathing spell and deal with those prices we can deal with. Let us say three months. He has suggested three months.

But when your party says, and keeps saying—and they have repeated it so often that I think they believe it—that price-fixing has been a failure in Britain and in the United States, they are not speaking the facts. The fact is that inflation has grown faster in Canada than it has in either America or Great Britain, and that is because we have done nothing about it.

Hon. Mr. Laing: Honourable Senator O’Leary, dealing with housebuilding, said that lumber is produced in Canada and that the increase in the cost of housing had nothing to do with it at all. He must remember that in our province we used to sell cedar at \$24 a thousand, but we have had a flood of Japanese coming in and paying \$500 a thousand.

Hon. Mr. O’Leary: I think the honourable senator should ask that question of the Prime Minister, because the Prime Minister stated in the House of Commons only last week that wages had nothing to do with inflation. You should find out what your leader thinks about these things.

Hon. Mr. Laing: Is the honourable senator advocating setting aside portions of Canadian production of all kinds to be maintained at price levels in Canada, including lumber, metals and everything else? Obviously, the advocacy for that policy is the NDP.

Hon. Mr. O’Leary: I did not say “all kinds” at all. I said we should look at the situation to see what we can do about prices in order to get at least a breathing spell and to stop these runaway prices. Then we could sit down, three months having gone by, and having stopped this mad march of inflation, we could see what we could do in the future. That is all. There is nothing very remarkable about that.

Hon. Mr. Forsey: Would the honourable senator tell us what his party proposes to do when it has got its breath after three months?

Hon. Mr. O’Leary: That is ridiculous! That is just another of those damned clichés you have been using over and over again that don’t mean a thing. Nobody can sit down and make a list. I said we would have to sit down and see what we could do. We don’t say, “Yes, we will do this, that and the other thing.” Governments do not work that way and nobody knows that better than Senator Forsey.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: What he says is always somewhat “forcé”.

Hon. Frederick William Rowe: Honourable senators, first of all I should like to express my appreciation, as other senators have already done, and, I believe, the pleasure of all Canadians, at the appointment of His Excellency the Governor General. Until last week I had not had the pleasure or the honour of meeting that distinguished gentleman, although I had had the honour of meeting and conversing with his distinguished brother. All Canada can be proud that this nation, comprised of such diversity as it is, has been able to produce such a distinguished family as the one represented by our new Governor General.

To you, Madam Speaker, may I say that I concur with all the compliments that have been made about you. I could easily go on to add to them, but to do so would be almost needless repetition. We all admire Madam Speaker.

I should also like to express my congratulations to the proposer of this motion, our new colleague Senator Robichaud. I have had the pleasure of knowing Senator Robichaud for many years, including the ten years that he was Premier of New Brunswick. I wish to say that, from observing him over the years at federal-provincial conferences and at Atlantic conferences, I have had the impression and have developed the conviction that in addition to being a dedicated premier of one of our historic provinces he has at all times been a great and dedicated Canadian. Nothing that has happened since his days as premier has changed my mind in that respect.

I should also like to congratulate the seconder of this motion. By his presence here Senator Perrault has brought to this chamber one of the finest speaking voices I have ever heard. Certainly, he has used his voice with great articulation and eloquence, and that alone represents a significant and valuable addition to this chamber.

May I also express at this time my good wishes to the Leader of the Government in the Senate. I am sure I speak for all senators when I say that we would like to assure him of our continuing co-operation in his onerous duties. In saying that I should also add that we appreciate the onerous burden which rests on the Leader of the Opposition here. We all feel, on both sides of this house, I am sure, that in the person of Senator Flynn we have another distinguished Canadian leading the Opposition in this house.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Rowe: I should like now to say just a word about our distinguished friend and colleague Senator O’Leary. As he was speaking a few moments ago my mind went back to a time when I was 16 years of age and had