

Business of the House

the administration of the department. I will not be too severe in my criticism this evening, I congratulate the Minister of Trade and Commerce upon bringing forth his estimates, although I do not always agree with him or his colleague the Minister of Finance with whom he must at all times maintain close liaison.

Our trade and commerce, broadly speaking, cannot prosper if we employ a narrow outlook in the legislation concerning our secondary manufacturing industries. I point out to the minister a gross injustice that has been perpetrated on the area which I represent, the riding of Prince Edward-Lennox mainly, although it goes beyond that. In 1954 the Del Monte company of California was permitted to buy Canadian Cannerys, which was our largest secondary manufacturing industry in Prince Edward county, manufacturing agricultural products into food products. The Del Monte company of California bought out Canadian Cannerys in our area and, sad to say, immediately closed up all the factories, and to the agreements in connection with those factories which they sold to Canadian individuals and Canadian companies they attached a solemn clause right in the deed that they would no longer be used for canning agricultural products. In other words, today we still have at least one of these good canning factories that could be started up at very short notice to continue to serve the area as it did before 1954; but according to the agreement, that hard headed bargain made by the modern Sam Slick across the border, that factory can no longer be used to can tomatoes, peas and corn, the products of Prince Edward county. I deplore the situation that was permitted by a Liberal administration back in the 1950's and I recommend to the minister that he use his powers to correct it. Any agreement of that kind should be automatically voided in connection with these properties. I have no doubt that in other industries the same thing has occurred. It may have occurred in our lumbering industry, in our paper making industry and in other forms of secondary manufacturing.

Only about a week ago I had a strong, forceful but reasonable complaint from a citizen of Prince Edward county who owns one of these factories but cannot use it for the purpose for which it was built. Second, Mr. Chairman, I have a complaint regarding the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act, over which the minister has jurisdiction. This complaint is in the form of a letter from a prominent Canadian manufacturer. The

letter is dated August 13, 1964, and I wish to quote from it as follows:

Under normal conditions I do not sign cheques on the current account except when they exceed a certain figure.

The letter is signed by the vice president of this company. It continues:

However, I had this opportunity today when our secretary treasurer was on a short vacation. Amongst the cheques to which I affixed my signature today was one in the amount of—

—almost \$600, for—

—payment of union dues for July 1964—district 50, united mine workers of America, to be sent directly to 1435 Kay street N.W., Washington, D.C.

It seems incredible to the undersigned that our government would stand by and let moneys for union dues go out of the country. This must be an average monthly payment that we're making on behalf of the union and when you multiply this by thousands of manufacturers in our country, the amount going across the border must be fantastic.

Mr. Regan: Mr. Chairman, will the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Alkenbrack: You will have a chance to make your remarks after I have finished. The letter then continues as follows:

Again, when it contributes to the elegant living of such union leaders as we read about in newspapers, the situation is that much less digestible.

Surely some legal aspect of this situation could demand that the dues be held in Canada for the use of our own citizens. At least a great proportion of it would be spent here.

I am sure this is just a "cry in the wilderness", but I could not help but comment on the situation when it was drawn to my attention in the manner as outlined above.

Mr. Patterson: Mr. Chairman, it is ten o'clock.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I think we should have unions of a national and Canadian nature controlled in Canada and not by union officials of the republic to the south.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask about the business for tomorrow, and for a forecast of business for next week.

Mr. MacNaught: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue our discussion on estimates of the Department of Trade and Commerce. However, if that discussion is not concluded by one o'clock it will have to be interrupted, because the minister will not be available after that time. We will then consider the votes relating to the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, under the jurisdiction of the Postmaster General. After that we