

The total collapse of the pit-prop market, to which the honourable senator from Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Burchill) and other maritime senators have called attention, is a real calamity for New Brunswick, where this is a major industry, and, to a lesser extent, for Nova Scotia. Loss of lumber markets overseas have had a general crippling effect on the economy of the maritimes.

Newfoundland, so I am informed, is today extremely concerned over the loss of markets for fish in the West Indies, Britain and elsewhere, and one of its pulp mills has been obliged to shut down.

Fortunately, Nova Scotia still has in successful operation its modern newsprint mill, on the Mersey river at Liverpool, headed by a Nova Scotian, I. W. Killam, of Yarmouth; and our oldest and most substantial industries—Moir's, Stanfield's, Lewis' and W. H. Schwartz and Sons of Halifax—are still flourishing.

My first humble effort as a member of this honourable body, nearly twenty years ago, was to head a tourist committee, which is now a permanent feature of the Senate and is carrying on under the able chairmanship of my old and distinguished friend, the senator from Lethbridge (Hon. Mr. Buchanan), a member of the Fourth Estate, which as Burke once remarked is "the highest of them all." The Canadian Travel Bureau, has from its inception been in the capable hands of a Maritimer, Mr. D. Leo Dolan, who is well known to this honourable body. The tourist industry has had a remarkable success and has brought in millions of much-needed American dollars.

At the time of my appointment to this chamber, it was with reluctance that I accepted the great honour, as I felt there were many others in my province who were more worthy to be selected. However, I am glad to have this opportunity to make very clear the position I have always taken, regardless of politics.

In the first place, I come from a great British naval and military base, where, as the Right Honourable Stanley Baldwin once observed during a visit to Halifax, the Union Jack had never been lowered in 200 years. Nor am I one who would wish to be associated, in politics or elsewhere, with any group who—to quote another famous English Prime Minis-

ter, the Right Honourable Winston Churchill—would wish to "preside over the liquidation of the British Empire."

The Maritime Provinces, once the richest and most progressive part of this dominion, with the highest marine tonnage in the world, still possess all the physical attributes, including their people, which have made them great. Along with Newfoundland, they possess the advantage of the ocean at their door, with cheap water-borne freights to carry their products to the four corners of the earth. They have an abundance of coal, with iron ore and steel, which should make them rivals of the great American steel centres like Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

Honourable senators, I am a newspaper man. I joined the staff of the *Halifax Herald* in 1900 as a printer's devil and am now—with the generous toleration of the banks—one of the owners of two daily newspapers published in Halifax, with a net paid circulation of more than 100,000. It is my earnest desire to conduct these newspapers in a free, frank and fearless manner, for the benefit of the Maritime Provinces, Newfoundland and the rest of the Dominion of Canada, from St. John's, Yarmouth and Sydney to Vancouver and Victoria.

I know that I am living on borrowed time; and I am here today against the orders of my doctors. But if it is the last speech I make here, I wish to inform the leader of the government (Hon. Mr. Robertson), the leader of the opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig), and honourable members, on both sides of the chamber that I will never be a "Charlie McCarthy"—

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Dennis:—though I rather hesitate to mention McCarthy, since he is made of wood, and I have no wish to be the means of starting another government prosecution such as the one now proposed in connection with the manufacture of wooden matches in Canada.

Hon. Mr. Beaubien moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until Monday, March 20, at 8 p.m.