

*The Budget—Mr. Studer*

eighty miles of border between my constituency and the state of Montana. In that area, we know, there are many things that can be obtained on the other side of the line at a lower price than on the Canadian side. On the other hand, there are many things in Canada that the people of the United States would like, which cost less in Canada than they do on the other side of the line. We know that in Canada our freight rates are lower than they are in the United States. We can haul our grain cheaper to Fort William and Port Arthur than they can haul it a similar distance in the United States to Duluth. There are compensating factors in connection with duties, tariffs and free trade.

To come back to the subamendment, I do not think there is any argument against free trade to the largest extent possible provided that no particular class or industry in Canada suffers as a result. We sometimes wonder at the attitude of some of our splinter parties, particularly our C.C.F. friends, in regard to this matter. The hon. member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Thatcher) moved the subamendment which calls for free trade. He said that the Liberal party should bring into existence right now something that it has preached for fifty years. I would ask the hon. member: How many years have the C.C.F. been preaching free trade? If I remember correctly, it was not very many years ago that party said that free trade was absolutely obsolete in this country, that it was not up to date; and yet we see a change of mind today and our friends are talking about free trade.

The other day the leader of the C.C.F. party (Mr. Coldwell) said that the late Mr. Woodsworth of respected memory changed his mind about the constitution. I would suggest that it is not only the hon. member for Moose Jaw and some others who have changed their minds; most if not all of the members of the C.C.F. party have been changing their minds throughout the years of their existence. I believe Canada is fortunate in that it did not adopt, either provincially to any extent, or particularly federally, the advice that has been tendered to it. I think the people of Canada have made up their minds that they are not going to have any part or parcel of socialism. I would suggest to our friends that they continue to change their minds, and after a few more years they may be of the same mind as the Liberals. Taking everything into consideration for the betterment of all the people of Canada, they cannot do otherwise.

Some years ago the doctrine of self-sufficiency was preached in this country. It was said that we had enough coal, iron, lumber, and everything else that entered into the economic life of Canada, to build up our own

economy without depending to any extent on any other country. All we had to do was elect the C.C.F., bring their policy into existence, and we would have everything. We were told we could be self-sufficient within our own country.

I am glad to see however that they have changed their minds. They also changed their minds with respect to certain policies they had in 1934, one of which was called the use-lease system of owning land. We heard about that system in Saskatchewan and it was called the useless-lease policy. However, under the use-lease system all the land would belong to the state, and one would lease over a period of ninety-nine years. If they have not changed their minds about that, at least they have not said much about it since that time.

If I do not understand it correctly, I should like to be corrected with respect to their attitude concerning the first year of the last war. My recollection is that out in Saskatchewan the matter came into prominence when we were told that the war then taking place in Europe, and in which eventually we became involved, was not our war. We were told that it was a capitalistic war—"Why do the people of Canada send their sons overseas to die? Why fight and die for the capitalists?" That is what we heard in Saskatchewan.

If we had followed that policy—and again they changed their minds—there would have been no Canada or commonwealth, as exemplified in the proceedings which took place in this chamber this afternoon. I say therefore that our government is to be commended upon not having followed the advice and the prophecies of those parties during that period of time, when they tried to tell us that the whole world was out of step, except them. That was the impression they tried to leave in Saskatchewan, and the impression which has been left almost up to this date by them in the dominion House of Commons.

The Liberal party is not encumbered by socialistic thinking because they know that civilization has by-passed socialism, that socialism has no place in Canada and, for that matter, possibly no place in any other country. Civilization has now advanced to a position where we have everything necessary to give far and beyond what socialism ever had to offer.

Does anyone wish to tell me that when we achieve socialism we have reached the end of the line, that there is no further progress nations can make? I suggest that these people might change their minds again with regard to socialism, both the people of Saskatchewan and those who are here in the House of