

the welfare of the nation, while others identify the welfare of their enterprises with the welfare of the nation itself.

No parliamentary committee has yet delved into the activities of the Department of Munitions and Supply, with which most of the dollar-a-year-men have been associated; but that should be done at this session of parliament. In the United States the office of production management corresponds fairly closely to our Department of Munitions and Supply. There, a committee under the chairmanship of Senator Truman investigated its activities. Its report, submitted to congress on January 15, 1942, was most interesting. It recommended that the office should be drastically reorganized. The report stated that there were 255 dollar-a-year-men and 631 who received no government pay, but many of whom retained remunerative connections with the companies which lent them to the government. These men, the report said, had a tendency to favour big business, whether they were conscious of the fact or not. The committee declared that it was opposed to the government taking free services—and I quote—"from persons with axes to grind"—and recommended that if they were needed by the department they should be given salaries and required to relinquish their private business connections, and salaries.

In parts, the Truman report reads like criticisms that have been made in this house. For example, I quote:

Apparently there never has been any real and coordinated procurement of aircraft.

Again:

There is a tendency throughout to place everything on order wherever possible and put the sole responsibility for delivery on a few large producers.

Again:

"Big business" has had its lobbyists in the form of dollar-a-year-men and men without compensation. Small and intermediate business men have sought to obtain the same benefits by hiring those who they think have influence. In some cases the persons are hired to render legitimate services and are paid so handsomely as to lead many to think their employers must have expected to receive added benefits. In others no legitimate services are rendered and payments that are made can be treated only as compensation for influence. In most instances the "Washington connections" are non-existent and the pedlars of influence are relying on the chance that the business man can obtain a contract without help if he made a serious and determined effort.

Are we free from these abuses, with much the same type of establishment? Well, prosecutions now going on in the Ottawa courts should make us suspect that we may not be. There is unrest in Great Britain, too,

on another phase of the same problem. The *Labour Discussion Notes* for December, a publication of some of the members of the British Labour party, contained a careful survey of the matter. It said:

The feeling that excess profits are being made must lead to cynicism and lack of a feeling of personal responsibility among the workers in factories from whom a more intensive effort is demanded; while at the same time many employers are putting forth the argument that the inability to make high profits owing to the action of the excess profits tax is itself a brake on production.

The publication goes on to express alarm at the growing economic power of the big monopolies and states a fact of which we should take the most careful warning when it says:

There is one other important factor which requires careful watching—that is the future of the vast capital equipment provided by the government to increase output. . . . It could form the basis of, for instance, a sizeable national munitions industry or it could become a gift handed over at a nominal charge to the present owners. In the latter case, all the effects of the excess profits tax would disappear overnight.

With these warnings before us we should go into the whole problem of munitions and supply, or some day we may find that a few trusts and corporations have so increased their power over the economic life of Canada that the individual, unorganized consumer is entirely at their mercy. Indeed, I would go as far as to say that unless the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) himself is alert to this situation, he will find that the present trends in Canada will shatter every economic and social policy which he has preached and professed throughout his whole career in public life.

To achieve an enthusiastic response from the people of Canada there must be a greater approach to economic justice and equality of sacrifice. In spite of the excess profits tax, total dividends last year were greater than in the previous year. The *Globe and Mail* reported J. R. Timmins and Company as saying that 1941 dividends exceeded \$285,000,000 as against \$280,000,000 for 1940. These are not my figures, but the figures published by the *Globe and Mail* of the city of Toronto on December 22, 1941.

Our people are not satisfied with our war effort. They look at the personnel of our various war boards and they see representatives of big business in control almost exclusively. To regain the confidence of the people, representatives of farmers and of labour, in the widest sense of these terms, must be given adequate control. By adequate control I do not mean the appointment of the odd farmer