

senators, that it is only fair and reasonable that the taxpayers of this country be told the amount of subsidies paid out, in order that they can form a fair opinion as to the advisability or otherwise of continuing these controls. I know that controls were necessary during the war—nobody objected to them then; and I believe that a few controls, extremely few, are necessary now.

Honourable senators are all familiar with the Atlantic Charter and the four freedoms that were enunciated therein. But there is one freedom which all Canadians are longing for today, and that is freedom to manage their own affairs in the way they think best, freedom from being pushed around by the government and their satellites who are at the head of the various controls. These Canadians know more about their own affairs than the government or any of the officials do.

The government recently announced the objective that they are seeking—increased revenue and increased production. I agree with them as to the objective, but I differ as to the ways and means of attaining it. I am perfectly satisfied with the opinions expressed by business men, financiers and presidents when delivering annual addresses for the various large banks which they represented. I shall only quote one very briefly:

Vital as controls have been to wartime production, they sit uneasily on normal peacetime economy, not only retarding recovery but even encouraging the evils of black markets and inflation.

I am fully convinced that if a large number of these controls were removed now, business in Canada—although it is not bad at the present time—could be very much improved. We would have greatly increased both production and revenue. We would also have a fuller employment programme than we have at the present time. The government, however, appear to be obstinate. They are not giving the heed that they should to the business people, the Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Manufacturers Association and our great financiers.

The honourable senator for Churchill (Hon. Mr. Crerar), whom we are very pleased to have with us today, knows full well, as I do, that in the days gone by governments under Macdonald, Laurier and Borden consulted the people and were largely guided by them in the formulation of their restrictions and legislative enactments. Today we are living in a different age. These controls are left to experts, not one of whom has had any experience whatever in business. Therefore I wish to go on record now as strongly in favour of

a speedy, very speedy, removal of these controls, except for a few which it may be necessary to retain.

There is yet another drawback to these controls. The honourable leader on this side touched on it yesterday. The manufacturers have found it desirable to engage in export trade, and nobody can blame them, for they can make more money in that way than by looking after the domestic market. One of the consequences of this has been a shortage of many articles on our domestic market which otherwise would not have existed.

I listened on the radio to Mr. Howard Green not more than a month ago. He was speaking on behalf of the British Columbia lumber interests. He said that the best grades of lumber in that province were being shipped abroad, whereas the poorer and more unseasoned grades were being used by the Canadian people. I therefore urge my honourable friend, who is a young business man, to use his strong influence with the government to see that these controls are done away with as quickly as possible, for I am satisfied that then the black market would vanish also, and the law of supply and demand would regulate prices. As our leader said yesterday, some day the government will have to face this issue. Why not face it now?

Before I leave the question of controls, I might express the hope that when the budget is brought down the excess profits tax will disappear.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: When the controls are gone competition in this country is going to be keener than ever before, and in the matter of export trade we shall have the strong competition of our neighbour to the south.

I come now to the question of income tax. I am sure the leader of the government is just as aware as I am that every Canadian, man or woman, feels the oppression of our system of heavy taxation. I do hope that when the budget is brought down there will be a substantial reduction of taxes right across the board, such as our neighbours to the south are contemplating. I hope also that the people who are in low-income categories will receive very generous treatment. I have a great deal of sympathy for the married man with a family who, on an income of only \$1,500 a year, has to meet not only the present high cost of living, but the income tax as well.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: If a reasonable and generous reduction is made, as I have suggested, the country may lose revenue for