

inflation, whenever a Gerry McGeer or some other member has risen and advocated government money—indicating the finance ministers were either utterly uninformed or insincere. And they can choose whichever of those alternatives they wish.

Now it ought to be, then, feasible, practicable and safe for the government of Canada to take an inventory of all surplus goods which we have or could have within a reasonably short time, such as butter, eggs, wheat and other grains, vegetables, potatoes, fruits, certain kinds of fish, certain kinds of lumber, coal, gas and the like, and create, to represent and to distribute these goods, credit instruments such as stamps, coupons, tickets, commodity dollars, dollar bills or book entries; all of which are credit instruments capable of being used for the distribution of goods. Such credit instruments created by the government would be debt-free, causing neither debt nor taxation. Such media of exchange could be used, (1) to subsidize primary production prices; (2) to discount secondary prices; (3) to bonus wage rates; (4) to grant production loans; (5) to guarantee stable prices after the war, and (6) to provide adequate storage facilities on the farms or off the farms.

The simple application of the principles of social credit will solve our production problems in Canada in war time. These principles are:

(1) The state creation of debt-free media of exchange, to represent unconsumed production in the country.

(2) The use of such media of exchange or credit instruments to (a) subsidize primary producers; (b) discount by subsidy the prices of goods to consumers, and (c) bonus or subsidize wages and in other ways bring about just prices.

(3) The use of such media of exchange to increase old-age pensions, to pay allowances to mothers, to provide medical care, dental care, to provide free hospitalization, to aid the unfortunate such as the blind, invalids and victims of accidents, and to reward the meritorious, such as returned soldiers. The amount of well-being in Canada can thus be caused to conform to the ability of the country to produce. The more she can produce, the more prosperous her people can be. Under the present system the more the country produces, the less prosperous the people are likely to be.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member's time has expired.

[Mr. Blackmore.]

Mr. C. S. BOOTH (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I regard myself as most fortunate, after two and a half years overseas, to find that the course of my duties has made it possible for me to return to my seat in the house, if even only for a few days, and to speak for the first time. I do regret sincerely it has not been possible for me to give more care and attention to the special problems of my own constituency of Winnipeg North. I believe however, my constituents appreciate that the work I have been doing is of some importance. Perhaps they appreciate it more because almost seventy per cent of them have their origin in countries now suffering under nazi oppression.

If I can make any contribution to the debate, it would be by telling the house something of what is taking place in connection with the Canadian army overseas. I will not give statistics, because I do not think the people at home want them. I can say, however, that we have a grand army. They are grand men, and all are good Canadians who are over there to fight for their homes.

What people at home want to know is, I believe, how those men are being treated, how they train, how they do their work and how they play. I wish to make a few observations regarding these questions. Those of us who were over there during the previous unpleasantness, and who have again taken part in this one, are very much impressed by some of the improvements in certain aspects of training, accommodation, and also particularly in connection with some of the auxiliary services.

As a rear rank private in 1916 and 1917, I was never able to understand how the continuous drudgery of forming fours and marking time was going to win the war. Nowadays however, it is very much different. Battle drill, assault landings and the like bear a direct relationship to the job the men are going to do when they get into battle. They can really see and understand what their training is leading to, and for that reason they enter into their training readily and heartily.

With respect to accommodation may I say that our men are well provided for in England. In the reinforcement units the permanent buildings are well equipped; and even troops on operational duties are well taken care of. I believe I can say that our hospitals in England are better equipped than most of the civilian hospitals in that country. Notwithstanding the peculiarities of English weather, the health of the troops is quite good.

One change I have noticed from the last war is in the matter of feeding. I have some terrible recollections of the Newfoundland cod