

The Economy

would like to know and I regret that the speaker who was addressing himself to the House when I came in did not stay longer—

Some hon. Members: No, he went because he was frightened.

Mr. Dionne (Kamouraska):—I would like him to tell me how he thinks this money is generated. The angels do not come down to earth every six months or every year to manufacture dollars. Money is made by human hands. It should therefore not be considered as a sign of wealth. Money is not wealth. Wealth is in material things. That should be easy to understand. What is important for a nation is to have enough food, to be able to dress properly, to have the necessary materials to build appropriate and comfortable housing. There is no lack of all that in Canada.

● (1632)

We have had the chance to be born in an extremely wealthy country, as our politicians are always saying. But wealthy in what way? Is it wealthy in natural resources? Yes. But how is it that to obtain the right to develop our natural resources, the national government has to go down on its knees to one group of men, the bankers who control the nation? It is not for nothing that the Pope, in the encyclical *Quadragesimo anno*, wrote very clearly: The manipulators of money and credit hold the economic life in their hands to such an extent that no one can breathe without their consent. This is a fact as anyone who wants to look seriously at the situation as it is and without red or blue glasses can see. Our government is always paralyzed by a corrupt and corrupting financial system.

We have heard about guaranteed income. I have been hearing about this for 10 years. Investigators from the Senate have made a study throughout the country. They found out what everyone knew already, that there were many poor people in Canada. Thousands of families lived under the poverty level. Since then, there have been occasional discussions about a minimum guaranteed income for everyone. That is what the Social Credit party has always recommended. For my part, I have been studying the principles of social credit since 1939 and I did not become a prophet all of a sudden. Of course not! However, I must say that before then, I was a Liberal party organizer and that I tried to tell my supporters that the Grits were a little better than the Tories. However, after a few years, I realized there was not much to choose between them. It is then that I decided to study the social credit doctrine.

In passing, I must add that social credit as such is not a political party but an economic doctrine. Has someone ever thought of the financial system as a political party? No, it is a financial doctrine. Nobody would say that the Catholic religion or any other religion are political parties. Those are religions which have their own ways of thinking, of observing

[Mr. Dionne (Kamouraska).]

and of offering to people the opportunity to assess the value of their beliefs or of their system. It is the same thing with social credit. It is an economic doctrine.

That a political party was formed under that name does not change anything to the social credit doctrine. It was established by a Scottish civil engineer and mathematician. He was always faced with monetary problems, so he tried to find out why. Since then the Douglas doctrine has been discussed in various countries of the world. Some will contend that it has not been implemented anywhere. Indeed, it is the main argument of our opponents. They do not study that doctrine. They say: if it was that good it would have been implemented somewhere. But I can still bring evidence that a Canadian province has applied the social credit doctrine under provincial jurisdiction. It was not the social credit as taught by Mr. Douglas. They could not do it because the monetary reform comes under federal jurisdiction. They even pleaded their case before the London Court.

● (1635)

Lucien Maynard, the Alberta secretary-treasurer, went up to the London court in an attempt to have the judges of that court understand that the legislation he had passed had to be implemented. The federal government, of course, had hastily declared it ultra vires because it affected the monetary system. They were afraid to lose a little of their power. The fact, of course, is that our lords from London who have the same conception of the imperfect monetary system as we have, confirmed the judgment which had been passed, with the result that the Alberta premier could not then implement the social credit system as developed by Major Douglas.

But even though the social credit system was not fully implemented, nobody could deny that the Social Credit party succeeded, when it came into power in Alberta in 1937 during the depression, at a time period when I, as well as thousands of other people, were trying to plan our future properly faced with an economic crisis, and our leaders both in the federal government and in the provincial government, when we talked to them about the possibility of improving our lot, used to answer: It's too bad, we don't have any money. Some answer! but it was at that time that the government took over in the province which was in debt as all the others.

After a few months, the laws were passed with the result that the debt of the province was extinguished, paid off. That government, had a social credit mentality, it believed debts must generally be paid. So they found a way of operating Alberta's oil wells. And people hasten to say: Of course, Alberta is filthy rich, it has the oil. But at the beginning of the Alberta administration, the Aberhart administration, there were no oil wells, there were no oil operations. So he undertook to find suitable administrative methods. Later on, after a few months, the oil fields were developed but in a special way, so