

provincial attorneys general in Victoria, at Queens Park or in Halifax. Our own laws should be enforced by our own law officers. All the law of this country is not contained in the British North America Act. There is a written and unwritten law, we have as well precedents usages and customs.

This government has endeavoured to do things in a new deal in spite of the obstacles raised by the British North America Act. All along the Conservative party has been the real socialistic party and the real labour party. Nearly all the useful social legislation has come from this party. This party has given protection to the workingman.

Back in 1905 we saw what great constitutional lawyers could do. The Liberal government of that day attempted to keep the people away from the boon of cheap light and power in Ontario and some of the very same type of lawyers who have been arguing on this particular matter, gave somewhat similar decisions thirty years ago against the people owning their own power plants. I saw a cartoon the other day in the great paper published by Horace Greeley. It showed two sailors who had fallen overboard from a boat in New York harbour. They had life savers around them and were looking up at the sinking ship and saying, "Yet fundamentally the ship is sound." That puts me in mind of our economic ship, we thought it was sound but we have found out that it is not sound. For over one hundred years the working classes have been striving for power and they have it to-day in Canada. The controllers of property and commercial enterprises who have for the last 100 years had the political power have been losing it. What Disraeli called the suffering millions are going to decide the coming elections. During the past five years this government has brought Canada out of the mire, we have been blessed in the gifted Prime Minister we have had. The mass voter is fickle and even the responsible voter seems to be changeable. If we are to have national economic security we must make plain the principles and policies for which this party stands in bringing forward this important bill. The average voter thinks that if the state is able to distribute poverty, it should be able to distribute wealth. I believe in fair wages and security. This government has made a brave effort to solve these problems in the price spreads and mass buying committee and commission.

Something has been said with reference to those who have been opposing this particular legislation. Mr. Charles Burton of Toronto was referred to the other day by the hon. gen-

tleman from South Winnipeg (Mr. Kennedy) who was chairman of the mass buying committee. I do not know what type of regulations this proposed board will have and I do not know of any board, human or divine, which has ever been able to regulate some of the institutions with which the gentleman I refer to has been connected. He was out west the other day and while he hides behind the luxuries of his Arcadian Court and ribbon counter; he wants to bring forth a scheme of regimentation of youth; he would have brigadier generals, major generals, honorary colonels, captains and all that sort of thing, a sort of regimented Coxey's army for the youth of this country. It would be much better if he would get up a regiment of profiteers middlemen, chisellers and tax evaders, bondholders, income tax dodgers, security and trust company racketeers and no par value shareholders. Mr. Burton used the words as reported, "shyster politicians" in referring to our mass buying commission, members of which worked hard for the people of this country. He would be far better engaged and more at home commanding such a big interest regiment than in criticizing a parliament which is making a brave effort to do something to remedy the evils that now exist. The Conservative party, which has done so much for the farmers and the working classes, is now making a genuine effort to solve the problems that face this country, and I hope that no amendments in another place will be made to the measure now before us. Amendments are coming in every day, from this place to the bar of the house to our clerk; 104 amendments have been brought in this week from another place, the Senate virtually vetoing the votes of the direct representatives of the people in this chamber. I hope that no amendments having any such effect will be made to this bill or accepted either.

The period from 1921 to 1930 constituted the golden age of mergers, trusts, combines and so on. The Insulls, the Morgans, the Mellons, the Youngs and the Mitchells of Canada were a regimentation that rode the crest of the wave, and nothing was done to stop them or to regulate them. These gigantic mergers were captained by Canadian supermen whose big brains were supposed to be guiding Canada to a greater future. To the average Canadian these gigantic financial manipulators and utility barons, security barons and trust barons were above suspicion; under them disaster seemed almost impossible. But they are no longer the master minds of Canada. I am surprised that on this question