

*The Address—Mr. Blackmore*

power on this continent, through generations of developing the ability to produce their own supplies of goods. He went down there and advised them to discontinue that policy, so that they could help us out. How far his suggestion will get, I do not know; but I do not imagine it will be very far. I should like to spend some time discussing the matter, but I shall defer it to some future occasion.

Suffice it to say that in a broadcast in October, 1944, Mr. Roosevelt said that he meant to find jobs for 60 million Americans by trebling the exports of that country abroad. Then this Canadian Prime Minister goes to that country and asks President Truman, the successor to President Roosevelt, to decrease exports abroad. It is pretty hard to get much sense out of that.

The Prime Minister at one point in his speech on the address placed great confidence in the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe). I am glad he did. It seems to me there are those in the house who would appear to endeavour to undermine that great Canadian. They need not undermine him, because he is not to blame for the troubles of this country. He has done a magnificent job wherever he has had the chance to do it, and has been given a free hand. Let us spend our time on someone other than the Right Hon. C. D. Howe when we wish to lay the blame.

The Prime Minister made two statements which pleased me. Speaking about the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe), and quoting himself, he said this:

He knows the problems are still thorny and there is no easy solution—but I will venture the prediction that if Mr. Howe and those who are working with him don't find a solution, there won't be one to find.

I will say this, to qualify the Prime Minister's general remarks, that if the Right Hon. C. D. Howe and those working with him do not find a solution, it will probably be because there are restrictions placed upon them which prevent their doing the things their native intelligence and understanding would prompt them to do. The Prime Minister later said:

In those statements I said it was a serious problem but I did not believe—and I do not believe—any man in Canada is better qualified to handle it than the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

I am not sure about that; I think I could find several men who have the vision and understanding which would enable them to know what to do without having to learn it, as I fear Mr. Howe will have to do. But they would not be able to do it if the present Liberal government were in charge, telling them how far they could go and how much they could do.

[Mr. Blackmore.]

There is a solution to the trade problem, beyond question. Whether or not Mr. Howe will find it will depend upon several things. Meanwhile I should like to ask the Prime Minister this question—and I wish he were here, because I think the Canadian people deserve an answer to my question: Would the Prime Minister give the Right Hon. C. D. Howe a free hand if he were to come to the Prime Minister and were to say, "Mr. Prime Minister, after the most careful study of everything pertaining to our trade problem, I have become convinced that the only means whereby that problem can be solved is through the principles of social credit".

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Blackmore:** Oh yes, we hear the silly laugh. These people would sit over there, and see us go right down into the depths of a depression 75 per cent worse than the one in the thirties. They would still shrug useless shoulders and wring helpless hands; they would still refuse to listen to anyone who knows what to do, and would continue never to give any suggestion, themselves, what to do. I have watched such people for fifteen years, all Liberals. I know what those men will do. They do not know anything, and they do not want to know anything. All they can think about is promises.

**Mr. Hansell:** All they can do is giggle.

**Mr. Blackmore:** Yes. Another question is this: If the Right Hon. C. D. Howe came to the Prime Minister and asked for permission to employ social credit principles and the Prime Minister in turn came before a caucus of the Liberal party and asked permission, what would Liberal members do? I wonder how long their confidence in the Right Hon. C. D. Howe would last? I wonder how long it would be before they demanded his resignation?

**An hon. Member:** Let us get back on the rails.

**Mr. Blackmore:** We are just exactly on the rails, and the hon. member will understand that, if he will give it some thought instead of giving quite so much thought to politics. The point is that someone has to find a way out of the difficulty; someone has to suggest a means of solving the American dollar problem and the Canadian dollar problem, so that we can sell a greater quantity of goods to Great Britain.

Up to the present time there has not been any hint of a solution of that problem, or anything looking like a solution from anyone in the Liberal party, or, indeed, anyone from the Progressive Conservative party.