

Let me revert to the policy of the new order. In my closing observation I should like to draw particular attention to some of the things which have taken place under what some will describe as the old capitalistic system. After all, to look back and see what we have done may give us confidence for the future. I wonder if we are fair in our judgment of the capitalistic system. I wonder if any other system could have possession of 1,500,829 automobiles in 1940—and this with only eleven and a half million people. In other words, practically one out of every seven people is driving either a truck or an automobile. That is something to think about, when we are considering how the old capitalistic system has worked. We have enjoyed in Canada, and on this continent, the highest standard of living in any part of the world. In this respect Canada gives place only to the United States. In 1941 we spent \$151,865,000 on the purchase of automobiles, and in addition to that we spent \$79,935,000 for roads on which to run them. They consumed 702,114,883 gallons of gasoline.

I am satisfied of this, that if we had some of that socialistic order emphasized over the radio by the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr, while we might get along for a while on the capital and impetus built up under the present system, the time would come when we would have a terrible headache.

In Canada we enjoy the use of 1,461,038 telephones. I do not know of any other system which offers that advantage. Last year aircraft carried 155,591 passengers, 14,440,967 pounds of freight and 2,710,975 pounds of mail. The other night I had the pleasure of listening to the policy of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation over the radio, and a similar opportunity was offered 1,454,717 other people in whose homes are radios. There are that many radios in Canadian homes.

When we want diversion we may go to the motion pictures. The figures reveal that 152,137,225 admissions were sold to the motion-picture theatres, costing us \$37,858,955. In spite of the rationing, in 1940, we each consumed 122.8 pounds of meat and 31 pounds of butter. So that if we are rationed a little bit we have only to spread the butter a little thinner. Surely that will not be considered any great hardship when we reflect upon the privileges we enjoy.

To continue: we find that 21,969,871 people travelled on our railways an average of 99 miles each. For the protection of labour \$24,000,000 was spent in workmen's compensation, for the men who happened to get hurt while working. Since its inception the federal

government has contributed over \$231,000,000 to old age pensions. In 1940, \$28,472,475 was contributed for this purpose from the federal treasury, and \$1,087,239 was allocated to the blind. For mothers' allowances we paid over \$10,000,000. Up to that year 2,661,275 people had subscribed for life insurance policies, bringing the total insurance figures to over five billions of dollars, with an average of \$2,000 for each person. Surely these are some of the things we ought to take into consideration before we wreck the house in which we are living.

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

Some hon. MEMBERS: Go on.

Mr. WOOD: I thank the house for this gracious gesture. I do not wish to take advantage of this privilege, but there is one further point I should like to mention. I know there are troubles in this world and there always will be. It is, however, our duty to try to do our part, whatever our station in life may be, and make some contribution toward making this a better world.

I had sent to me a book which I have no doubt other hon. members received. It is entitled "The Common Problem", and is written by William R. Yendall. I have enjoyed reading the philosophy of life outlined in this book and I accept a great deal of it. The solution of our problems is well explained in it, namely, that instead of wrecking and tearing down our present economic order we should follow the plan therein suggested. The author relates that an Irish town councillor called in an engineer and said:

"We have decided to build a new gaol. We have decided to build it out of the bricks of the old gaol, and we have decided to use the old gaol while we are building the new one."

The engineer laughed, for that is not the engineering method. But the problem of modern society is essentially the problem of the Irish town council, to build a new world out of the bricks of the present world, and use the present world while we are building the new one.

Mr. P. E. WRIGHT (Melfort): Mr. Speaker, I should like to add my words of appreciation to those of the hon. members who have preceded me in the honours accorded to the members of the armed forces in moving and seconding the address of his excellency in the speech from the throne. I think every member of this house realizes that our armed forces are the spearhead which stands between our democratic way of life and nazism, that the very existence of this house is dependent upon their initiative and their success.