

The Address—Mr. A. W. Stuart

on the municipality, or on the province. Therefore I would urge the government and the minister to take arthritis on its own merits and treat it even more generously than these other diseases have been treated. I would urge them not to leave it to the voluntary association which is now talking about arthritis but which has no funds for research.

Mr. Martin: Oh, yes, it has.

Mrs. Strum: A mere fleabite.

Mr. Martin: They wrote to me only last week that they cannot use the funds which the federal government and the provinces together have put at their disposal this year.

Mrs. Strum: The reason they cannot is that there are no centres where the funds can be applied. We were able to go so far with T.B. because we had treatment centres where we could apply the grants for research. While we were treating T.B. patients, wiping out sources of infection and saving lives, we were building up research information which has been of inestimable value to the world. Therefore I would say that research funds will not be any good until we have centres to bring together victims of arthritis, and to bring together doctors with specialized training in arthritis. We can do that only by giving the money to the provinces, because we all recognize that health is a provincial matter, that the provinces will have to institute and undertake the program, but that the very nature of the expenditures makes that impossible until the federal government kicks through with a lot more money than it has given in any of these other diseases.

Mr. A. W. Stuart (Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, first of all I should like to extend sincere congratulations to the mover and seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, particularly since those two hon. gentlemen are members of the "Little Chicago" group. My remarks in this debate will be a description of the conditions I encountered during my trip overseas last autumn as a delegate to the commonwealth parliamentary association. I regret that perhaps some of my remarks may not coincide with remarks that have been made by the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent). However, they will be a description of conditions exactly as I saw them during my visit to Europe for a period of two months.

We were privileged to be in England, and particularly in the city of London, for quite some time. We spent several days at the meetings of the commonwealth parliamentary association, and then had a few days to go and do whatever we wished. I had the privilege of meeting members of the government

of Great Britain, discussing with them problems that had arisen in Canada, and endeavouring to find some solution whereby they might be remedied. I was particularly interested in trade between Canada and Great Britain.

When I left Canada for overseas I had the idea that when I returned I might be able to tell the people of the country where I live the complete story as to why Canada today does not appear to be receiving the amount of benefit from British trade that it should receive. In my discussion with members of the British government I found that for quite some time the trade had been tunnelled through a one-way street, and apparently it must continue in that one direction for a considerable time in the future. When we consider that this country must have trade in both directions in order to survive, that was a very discouraging condition to encounter. To my regret I also found that some of the members of the government of Great Britain were very much opposed to the Havana agreement, which had been discussed for some time, and apparently was then practically in final form.

I have here some literature which came to me in London. It is distributed by the "Empire Industries Association and British Empire League." That organization is independent of any political party, but in looking over the literature I find that in the list of officials there appear the names of seven members of parliament. That would indicate that the members of parliament were taking the same stand in this regard. I should like to read a few of the remarks contained in this pamphlet.

The mutual aid agreement, under article 7, demanded "The elimination of all forms of discriminatory treatment in international commerce." The American interpretation of this phrase is the destruction of Imperial preference.

I believe I have made myself clear in this house as to my ideas on trade. I believe in freer trade. I have committed myself on various occasions on the floor of this house, and I am still of the same opinion. Trade is the very lifeblood of this country. In order for us to survive, when we produce much more than we can consume ourselves, we must trade with other countries. I believe that the freer the movement of that trade between all peace-loving countries the greater the prosperity in Canada. In no way would I wish to interfere with trade with any country wanting to trade with us on an equal basis. The pamphlet goes on to say with reference to the Havana charter:

This will disintegrate the Empire and isolate each member of it. Not one of the dominions, not even Great Britain, can stand alone in competition for