

reminder of the extent to which we have lost our individual liberties. Recently a man was brought before the courts, and what do you suppose was the charge? He was charged with selling to a firm milk that was better—not poorer—than the regulations permitted. In my early days I thought that laws were designed to protect the public from poor or adulterated food. But this man sold milk with 3.5 cream or fat content, when the prescribed content was only 3.25. So he was brought before the courts.

**Hon. Mr. Bishop:** Who prosecuted him? Who brought him before the court?

**Hon. Mr. Reid:** Inspectors. There is a law in our province which prohibits the selling of milk above a certain quality and below a certain price. In the cities of Vancouver and New Westminster the Safeways Stores offered to sell milk for 3 cents a quart less than the prevailing rate, but were prevented by law. Their argument was that the delivery of milk was too costly, and that housewives should be allowed to buy milk in their shops, take it home, and thereby save 3 cents a quart.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** Is there a milk board in British Columbia?

**Hon. Mr. Reid:** Yes. There is a man known as a "milk czar." When one man is empowered to do these things he is called a "czar." So these stores are not allowed to sell a quart of milk for 3 cents less, although people are willing to go there and carry it home. It must be delivered. Strange to say the delivery requirement is supported by certain unions, their reason being that to permit the customer to carry his milk home would deprive some men of their jobs. In the face of these things people get up and talk glibly about "free enterprise." I have been a Liberal all my life, but when I hear the utterances of certain Liberals in my province, when I see that every move they make is favourable to cartels and combines and the curtailment of liberty in some form or another, I say "If that is your outlook, be honest, and tell the people you are Liberals no more; you now want to regiment the people and deprive them of their freedom." For example, I could not go into the taxi or the trucking business in my district. A board is set up to control these things, and if I went before them they could tell me, "Oh, you will not be allowed to operate; there is a taxi business a mile away," so I would not be allowed to invest my money in a new taxi business. If I wanted to go into the trucking business I could be given the same story. If that principle is to be applied to the taxi business and the trucking business, it could be made to apply to such merchants as haberdashers, and so on. I

just wonder what merchants would say if they were told they could not start up in a certain business because there were too many already in that business, that there was a man with a store on the next corner who had to be protected? I am against such restrictions of individual liberty.

In closing I wish to say that business is booming in the province of British Columbia at the moment. I think it certainly can be said that the last frontier has been reached in the United States and that the new frontiers of endeavour are now to be found in Canada. The northern part of Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are now being looked to by the American industrialists and investors, and they are pouring hundreds of thousands of dollars into our North. I am a little worried, however, about our Canadian dollar. When I study the American picture and the money the Americans are pouring into Canada and the profits they are taking out from the produce of our mines and forests, I cannot understand for the life of me why our Canadian dollar should be at a discount. Do honourable senators realize that the Americans are financing and doing business on a deficit budget; that they are spending billions of dollars simply by writing on paper? It is true that they have something like \$23 billions worth of gold hidden in a vault in their country, but that gold reserve is not used any more to bolster currency. We in this country have a better and more sound financial economy than has the United States, and yet our dollar is at a discount. When I go across the line I am told by the Americans that they cannot accept my dollar except at a 5 per cent discount. I resent that situation. I draw the attention of honourable senators to it, and I say that the sooner our dollar is on a parity with the American dollar the better it will be. I believe that our dollar is being manipulated—and there may be reasons for it; but I think if it were allowed its freedom our Canadian dollar would be above the American dollar because of the financial position of this country as compared to that of the United States.

Honourable senators, I am sorry for having taken up so much time. I did not intend to cover so many subjects, and I shall leave the remainder of my remarks until the various legislation forecast in the Speech from the Throne comes before us.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** Honourable senators, I move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion of Hon. Mr. Horner was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.