

No, I cannot believe that the American people have as yet been beaten into such abject submission that they will allow this to happen.

These are the words of a congressman, spoken in congress. But unfortunately neither the American people nor the Canadian people are permitted to learn the truth of these things.

I was going to quote from a speech made by the Right Hon. Winston Churchill in the British House of Commons in 1932, but the hon. member for Acadia has already put it on *Hansard*, and the omissions will rather spoil my record. But there is one part which he did not quote. Let me repeat very briefly. Mr. Churchill said that he was moved by many arguments and forces in 1925 to return to the gold standard and was assured by the highest experts, men of great ability and indisputable integrity and sincerity, that they were anchoring themselves to reality and stability, and he accepted their advice. He continued:

I take for myself and my colleagues of other days whatever degree of blame and burden there may be for having accepted their advice. But what has happened? We have had no reality, no stability.

He goes on to say:

The price of gold has risen since then by more than 70 per cent. That is as if a 12-inch foot-rule had suddenly been stretched to 19 or 20 inches; as if the pound avoirdupois had suddenly become 23 to 24 ounces instead of—how much is it?—16. Look at what this has meant to everybody who has been compelled to execute their contracts upon this irrationally enhanced scale. Look at the gross unfairness of such a distortion to all producers of new wealth, and to all that labour and science and enterprise can give us. Look at the enormously increased volume of commodities which have to be created in order to pay off the same mortgage debt or loan. Minor fluctuations might well be ignored, but I say quite seriously that this monetary convulsion has now reached a pitch where I am persuaded that the producers of new wealth will not tolerate indefinitely so hideous an oppression.

"So hideous an oppression." Those are the words of the present Prime Minister of England, and, thinking that those words would be of interest to those sections of the press which had attacked me in such a vitriolic way, I had copies of that speech made and sent them to the editors of *Saturday Night*, the *Sifton* press and other papers that had attacked me and suggested that the speech would be of interest to their readers. From that day to this I have never had an acknowledgment, and not one word has been printed. Yes, the Right Hon. Winston Churchill is a great man when he is hurling defiance at the nazis. But when he proves his greatness by acknowledging the mistakes that he made in the past, not a word

of it is published. That speech was made in 1932. Some people say, "Ah, but you went off gold in 1929," or was it 1930, "and the depression came after that." Well, Mr. Chairman, when a person has been drugged; when he is a victim of drugs, you cannot cure him by suddenly cutting off the drug; that would bring about a collapse.

Mr. BLACKMORE: They went off gold in 1931.

Mr. JAKES: That is what happened, but the mischief and the damage had been done. I suffered; I am not speaking because I personally suffered, but the farmers of this country for whom I am speaking were ruined by that policy. As Mr. Churchill said, think of the increased production that has to be exchanged to pay off the same mortgage indebtedness. We have heard a great deal in this house recently about farmers' debts and how lazy the farmers were, and how dishonest for not paying. But Mr. Churchill is, I think, more honest than our critics. He admits his mistake.

I happened to spend the winter of 1930-31 in a small town near Vancouver. The house where I was living overlooked the Canadian Pacific railway, and every freight car that came to the town going west that winter was loaded with the victims of that policy. From the beginning to the end of that winter there could be seen thousands of the victims of the return to gold. I spoke with many of them. They were men just as good as I am, many of them better, and there they were without homes, without food, without money, without clothes, without shelter. It made me think, and I undertook the study of economics. I had time on my hands and I borrowed every book I could find in the Carnegie library, but at the end of six or eight months I was none the wiser. When I returned to Alberta later in the year I came across an article headed, "Money, the basis of exchange"; I read that, and in ten minutes I had the key; and I have been applying that key from that day to this. That is why I take the interest in this affair that I do; and I say that until the control of financial policy is taken away from those who have usurped it, and is returned to governments in trust for the people, there is no hope of lasting peace, happiness and prosperity.

Now let me refer to an article that was published in a well-known magazine by Doctor Ludwig von Mises. We are told at the end of the article that Doctor Ludwig von Mises was recently professor of international