

In other areas it is the opposite; the west is charged higher prices than Quebec and that, Mr. Speaker, is also not acceptable. We Social Crediters say that the problem is not in the production. The needs are there. Nor is the problem in the consumption. People are not crazy, they can select the quality of product they want. The problem lies in a sound distribution of these products, of this wealth across our country. Secondly the difficulty is to have a sufficient purchasing power to buy these products in order to meet our needs.

Mr. Speaker, this is briefly how I see the present situation and those people who are most affected by it. I repeat, and I will never repeat it enough as long as I feel that this message is not understood, the ceiling is for those people in the low and middle income brackets.

Mr. Speaker, the problem lies in the distribution of wealth and as long as we will not really tackle this problem by setting up effective organisms rather than puppet organisms of control like the Canadian Wheat Board, for instance, which makes prices increase, controls production and forces the Quebec people or other Canadians to deprive themselves, things will get worse and worse.

Mr. Speaker, like my leader, the hon. member for Témiscamingue, like the right hon. Prime Minister, we believe in Canada that Canadians can build the country; we believe Canada is a very large country in the world—you just have to travel to see it—in spite of its very low population. At the same time, we see nothing wrong with the unemployed, Mr. Speaker, with people who live on welfare, with an alleged scarceness of products which is an excuse for their high cost. At the same time, workers pay enormous taxes to support people who would like to be productive but who are not given this opportunity. I think the situation is too serious to let it deteriorate further.

I think the second session give us a marvellous opportunity to grapple with this problem outside the political tracks.

Mr. Speaker, even if the Progressive Conservatives told me they were going to do better than Liberals, I would not believe it. They were already in power and they did nothing better. Even if the Social Crediters were there it remains to be proved that they would do any better. I think it is time to be honest in this House. Even if the Liberals told me that things are going well in this country that people enjoy a nice living and security I would also say it is false. Mr. Speaker, you just have to go with people. Even if the New Democratic Party members told us the same thing, it would be false.

I think there is some good in every party. If we were to be honest there would be good ideas to pick up on both sides of this House, we should adopt some ideas of the Social Crediters. Since we speak about product distribution, we find that strange. Mr. Speaker, I should be ready to go anywhere in Canada to support this principle because now everybody feels in his wallet the effect of the distribution problem and the dissatisfaction that occurred.

I should like to ask a little favour of this House, Mr. Speaker. I see it is six o'clock and if I had two or three minutes more I could finish my remarks.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

The Address—Mr. Roche

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

● (1800)

Mr. Speaker: The House agrees.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to concentrate my comments on that matter because in our opinion it is a great problem in Canada, a problem which requires a global solution.

I think that the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) would have the support of all parties in the House if he could conceive with the co-operation of all members a fair and just distribution system of our resources for all areas in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to work hard, we want to be effective and objective, and we say to the government that we are ready to co-operate, that we are ready to work very hard to support it or any policy aimed at solving the resource distribution problem, so that we could be proud to be a Canadian, from British Columbia or from Quebec, in order that the measure could be the same everywhere in Canada, also in order that every Canadian could take advantage of our fantastic resources. To that extent, we are willing to co-operate. But if they refuse to support that position, we will protect the people who have no income. Then, Mr. Speaker, we will have to withdraw our support to the government.

With such an honest position and to prove to the government that we are serious, in conclusion I would like to move, seconded by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert), the following sub-amendment:

That the period be replaced by a comma and the following words added:

"particularly for not having taken effective and immediate measures to stop the increase in the cost of living which seriously affects persons on low and medium incomes."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to move that motion because I know that it reflects the views of the great majority of Canadians who are only too willing to build their country and expect to be encouraged, stimulated and supported by their government and our party.

Mr. Speaker: It being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock.

[*English*]

At 6.04 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, last spring I spoke in this House putting forth the voice of the new west. I want to return to that theme tonight as I consider the real meaning of the energy crisis for mankind today.

First may I offer the sincere congratulations of the people of Edmonton-Strathcona to our new Governor General and to wish His Excellency and Madame Léger health and happiness as they begin their arduous travels across