

Take note of the fact that Mr. Bradley makes no discrimination in the manner in which he placed the responsibility for the evils of which he complains. He conveniently combines the misdeeds of Commission government with those of our previous responsible government. Mr. Bradley made much of the fact that our present prosperity is the result of war boom. He is apparently unable to see the real position, which is this: from an economic angle it does not matter a tinker's curse why or how our prosperity began. All we are concerned with are these two questions, first: do we enjoy favourable economic conditions? and secondly: what are the probabilities in favour of their continuance?.... All this talk of how they came about has nothing to do with the case. Let us be done with such childish quibbling.

There is another point in Mr. Bradley's speech which I feel I cannot allow to pass. In drawing up his picture of this country he has actually wiped off the years from 1939 to 1947, with the idea of showing how our economy would have looked without the benefits of the war. Now I am going to take a similar liberty, and remove another war from our history.... I refer to the first world war, 1914-18. Now as the speaker has fancied it a good idea to tie up war with finance in the years 1939-47, let us apply the same measure to the first world war, and see what effect it had on our economic life. What do we find? We find that ... this country would be the richer by some \$45 million. I am speaking now from the wholly economic standpoint, and would not dare to presume to put any value on the priceless lives of those who made the supreme sacrifice, and whose maimed and crippled bodies are still with us, some of whom are in this very chamber. I suggest that the speaker put that in his calculations, and he will find that the picture he sought to make is not so favourable to his cause as he fondly hoped it would be.

We have been accused of including guesswork and conjecture, but in the speech to which I refer there has been more that's outright guessing than in our entire Economic Report. I regard as a prize instance of this the delegate's reference to the United States bases. He takes it upon himself, without any authority whatever ... to inform us that the United States will give us nothing in return for these bases. He tries to show that we

are entitled to nothing.

For myself, I can see as far through a stone wall as Mr. Bradley, and I expressed my firm belief that there is every reason to believe that we will be able to make satisfactory arrangements with the United States, provided we have the proper form of government in this country. I would remind Mr. Bradley of another interesting event which took place in his 50 year period. I refer to the Bond-Blaine treaty. At that time America had no bases in Newfoundland. We had nothing to give her by way of a *quid pro quo*, and she was prepared to accept our product, she was prepared to do business with us on favourable terms, but what happened? Canada interfered, she skilled the deal, she destroyed our high hopes. I ask Mr. Bradley how this deal would have compelled him to change his economic picture, and what this country would have been like today, particularly for our fishermen in every section of the country if this deal had not been deliberately sabotaged by the interference of the Canadian government.

This speech I regard as an effort by one who is politically partisan. It is a demagogic appeal to stir unrest and dissatisfaction among our people.... Certainly we had bad times, but so had all other countries. Canada was throwing out dole money by the millions. The USA was doing the same.... Is anyone so foolish as to think that we can find a way of life to banish hard times? What nonsense! Look at England today, look at all of Europe.... In our case we should thank Almighty God that things were no worse with us. We were one of the most fortunate countries in the world all things considered, and I am inclined to repeat Mr. Bradley's words about marching to Zion. There is no Zion in this fallen world, where man must earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, and do not expect me or Mr. Bradley or anyone else to lead you to it.

Mr. Chairman, I believe I have dealt with the several matters contained in this report which seem to call for some additional information. But before I go any further there is one matter that was referred to me outside this House the other day, which I think I should like to speak about. A member of this Convention asked me to explain something to the best of my ability about what happened in 1932, or 1931 I think, in connection with the gold standard. I have told it many times,