

it is an accomplished fact. With the highly mechanized state of our industry I do not think the time is far distant when we shall have the six hour day principle applied to the industries of this country.

The replacement of men by machines has not been as great as one might be inclined to believe, and it has created a great deal of employment. The fact is that these machines must be created and maintained in operation. The great automobile industry is an example of this. The automobile is a modern invention and no one will say that it was a bad thing for mankind, and that it has not created employment. The same thing is demonstrated by the telephone. In this country, in the United States and in all other countries that use this modern invention, employment is given to tens of thousands of people. In these instances machinery has not entirely replaced the human factor. The same applies to the telegraph and to the radio. We have at least 10,000 people who are directly occupied to-day with radio activities. The same applies to wireless, to aviation and to mining.

The section of the country which I have the honour to represent, the Porcupine district of Ontario, would never have been developed to its present state were it not for the heavy machinery which permitted boring to great depths through the solid rock. A single ounce of gold would never have been produced with the old equipment. There is very little placer gold in this country. The same thing may be said of our other heavy industries. We must not overlook the development of our water powers which has meant so much to Canada. This has been possible because of the machines available. We must be careful and not paint a sad picture by saying that machinery is replacing men to such an extent as to upset our civilization.

These machines must be invented; they must be built, and they must be maintained. Anyone familiar with the fast pace of our industrial life will realize that to-day the average life of a machine is not more than seven or eight years. Not only must these machines be rebuilt, but in many cases they must be replaced entirely. These are matters that should be remembered when discussing this question. We talk in broad terms about the wonderful natural resources of this country, but we must not forget that all these resources were here a thousand years ago. They were here before the shores of the St. Lawrence were colonized by France and before the country was conquered by the British.

These natural resources were not developed. There is only one factor which brought them to development, and that again was the human one. We must be very careful in our statements on this matter. What we have here in the way of natural resources we have to work and fight for. The climatic conditions of Canada are very severe. Sometimes we speak of the wonderful areas which belong to us. It is true that this country is of tremendous size, but some of our great open spaces will be "open" till the end of time. It is very easy to make appeals on a basis of this kind to the passions of the people; but I repeat that it is true of my own province of Ontario and many other sections that our resources are not unlimited, and such as exist must be developed by the human factor, by human labour and inventiveness.

The hon. member for Wetaskiwin (Mr. Jaques), speaking to-day of the increased expenditures in which the implementation of this resolution would involve the government, remarked that the matter was subject to the question of financing it but that that should be a secondary consideration. Well, though I am a great optimist I am not as optimistic as all that. I have been in the house for a good many years. When I first came to this chamber the finance minister was the late lamented Hon. Mr. Robb. He was a minister of vision and ability, but even in those so-called boom years he had some financial worries. Later on he was replaced by the present Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning). Then we had a change of government and for a year or two the portfolio was held by the present leader of the opposition (Mr. Bennett), and later by the present Senator Rhodes. Then the government changed, and again the position is held by the present occupant. The men who hold that difficult position must be realists; they cannot afford to experiment to any great extent with the finances of the country. It is not their money; it is public finance, the money of the people.

It has often struck me as significant that these men are not prepared to take the easy way, according to some theorists here. How much simpler it would be, for instance, to start a printing press and to cover the cost of the pensions of great war veterans by issuing at one stroke some fifty-two millions of dollars, or to print another fifty millions of dollars to cover the deficits on the Canadian National Railways, or to meet interest charges. That would be the easy way, let me say in all sincerity to the Minister of Finance, to preserve his health and avoid worry; apparently all he has to do is to get the