

unemployed. I find, sir, that to-day in Canada it is almost impossible for a man of forty years of age who is out of employment to fit himself in and get a job. Is it the fate of a man who has been economical, prudent, thrifty, temperate, to find himself in this Canada of ours, hopelessly left out in the scheme of social endeavour? I say, Mr. Speaker, that there is a question of paramount importance and should concern parliament and the government of Canada. I was more than surprised when I heard the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) speak as he did. I think he spoke at least with full thought and with foreknowledge of what he was going to say, and he said that the question of unemployment is an individual question. It concerns, first, he says, the individual; then it concerns the locality wherein he lives; then the provincial government, and last and perhaps least, the federal government. Any man who has taken the trouble to read the story of industrial life must come to one conclusion, that unemployment is the result of our modern industrial system. Unemployment did not exist in the middle ages. During that period the problem was to get men enough to do the work which the state demanded, and even when we come down to the days of slavery in the United States we find that there was no unemployment. The slaves were whipped and beaten and made to do the work of the master. I claim that it shows a dereliction of duty, it shows a lack of vision and sympathetic understanding and a lack of good government when it is said that the unemployment question is not a part of the duty of the federal government. Go back into history and what do you find? You will find that in those days the natural resources of the country belonged to the people, but with the rise of governments we find that the governments began to control the natural resources of the country. What do we find to-day? We find to-day that the labourer is limited in his ability to earn a livelihood. The word "prosperity" has become nauseous to the ears of ninety per cent of the wage earners of Canada. But there is prosperity in this great country of ours. We see the wonders and marvels of our natural resources, but what do they produce for us? In the statistics of this country I find that for the twelve months ending October 31, 1929, the people of Canada purchased from the United States \$900,000,000 worth of manufactured goods. I wonder how many people realize the significance of that very simple statement. It means that every man, woman and child in Canada bought in that period from the United States \$90 worth of manufactured goods.

I have the highest respect for the United States. Their genius and their capacity for world trade and industrial development is devoted exclusively to the wellbeing of their 116,000,000 people. But what about us to-day? I will tell you. The knell has sounded for the present policy which has defrauded Canada of its legitimate right to benefit by the great wealth which is being poured out through every channel of trade and which should be diverted to solve this very problem of unemployment. There is the answer.

I do not intend to cover the various points mentioned in the speech from the throne; it would be impossible for me to do that in the forty minutes' time which I am allowed, but I do want to give you a picture of what I conceive to be the actual condition in Canada to-day. In giving you this picture I am giving it through the eyes of the people of Canada. What is that situation? Go to the fisheries to-day and what do you find? You find that that great industry, both on the Pacific and the Atlantic seaboard, is being menaced by that aggressive state to the south of us. In what way? I will give you an illustration which should arouse the blood of all Canadian people and make them want to defend their very birthright. In the port of Prince Rupert, where I live and which I have the honour to represent, a situation exists which demands immediate relief from the present government. This port is the largest fishing centre on the North American continent and is a free port for American halibut vessels which ply the waters from Seattle to Kodiak, within the Arctic circle. These American fishermen bring their catches to Prince Rupert but do not pay one cent for the use of that port, beyond one dollar for their fishing licence. But what about the Canadian fisherman? He has a tax of 2 cents per pound placed upon his fish entering the American market. Although in the last five years that tax has amounted to hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars we find to-day that the American interests are advocating that this tax be increased to 5 cents per pound on frozen halibut entering the United States from foreign ports. Are we to protect our people, our fishermen, or are we not? The people of Canada are asking that question. The present government are being weighed in the balance and they are being found wanting. I came into parliament sufficiently independent in thought at least to recognize merit whether it belongs to the government benches or to the members who are to my left, but I want to tell the house this afternoon that by the very action of the