

They refused to take action, in spite of their election cry, "Elect a Liberal government and we will be Liberal from coast to coast." Now we know that this cry meant nothing. This act might have been in force to-day with the machinery running smoothly if there had been action on the part of the government. Anybody with foresight could have seen that under our industrial set-up such legislation was necessary for a great many reasons, and now it has been recommended by the national employment commission, but we must wait for another year or so until we get a report from another commission.

Very little credit can be given the government for the improvement in the unemployment situation, but condemnation may be expressed because of their neglect to conserve the home market for Canadian workers. No one can deny that the dumping of Japanese goods, manufactured under a standard of living which is only a fraction of that enjoyed by our workmen, has taken employment from our workers here. The government refused to stop dumping; no action was taken. Canada has not been prosperous as far as her workmen are concerned. Canada's volume of trade is not the indication of the prosperity of the country. Our prosperity is indicated by the prosperity of the individuals throughout the nation, how much they earn each year, not each day or each week. That means how much work has been done. In three years this government has done nothing to increase the continuity of employment. It has given away the home markets of our secondary industries by not stopping dumping. The depression in the United States which started in October, 1937, has been steadily growing worse. That country had high inventories, which had to be liquidated. For the last four or five months these inventories have been liquidating at the expense of Canadian industry. Almost fifty per cent of our imports from the United States were of finished manufactured articles. Therefore I say that this liquidation has been at the expense of our workers. Our imports from the United States have increased, and our exports to that country have decreased. Our balance of trade with them has become increasingly against us.

What action was taken last October, November or December to stop a continuance of these conditions? Where was the imposition of dumping duties? No action has been taken, and yet the government takes credit for having done good work. It takes credit for placing youth in industry. For years it has been obvious that youth training was necessary. It has also been obvious that when conditions

warranted, manufacturers would encourage that training. They would encourage it when there was a demand for their goods. It is also obvious that government assistance and cooperation were necessary, and I must say that very little credit is due the government for anything which, on the face of it, is so obvious. When conditions warrant, youth training in industry would increase. But what will happen to the trained youth and the old employees? When the demand for manufactured goods declines, the services of employees will have to be dispensed with. I ask this question: What is the use of training the youth if the manufacturers cannot keep them employed? What has the government done to ensure the continued employment of these people?

What is happening at the present time? They are being laid off, or are being told that they will have to work shorter hours. Thousands of young Canadians are reaching the age where they could take work in the industrial fields. What has the government done to ensure work for them? We know it has refused to impose dumping duties on imported goods. Is that the proper action? The work our workmen should do is being done by United States workmen, in order that some purchaser may save a few cents on the dollar. All this is done at the expense of the Canadian workman, and at a heavy relief cost to the government.

Canadian buyers for Canadian firms have orders from their headquarters not to buy. Business houses, because of the policy of the government, are afraid to make purchases. They realize that the government have followed a policy of doing nothing, and that there is uncertainty with respect to the proposed new agreement with the United States. Nobody knows what conditions may be a short time in the future. I know of four industries in Toronto whose business was so good last October that they were cramped for space. Had those conditions continued, they would have built extensions to their plants at a cost of from \$10,000 to \$40,000. But a Liberal government was in power, and the uncertainty with respect to tariffs and proposed new treaties discouraged them from building. They had the idle cash ready to use, but they still have it. They have put up a temporary accommodation at a cost of two or three thousand dollars, and Canadian workmen have been deprived of the work they might have had in the larger extensions.

Those companies are keeping their cash, to tide them through the coming depression—and it is coming. Provincial governments, through legislation, are trying to improve wage