

to do—is to provide government projects, particularly in the summer months, in order to give these people a chance to work with their hands and their teams and to earn wages. The relief they get is not enough to allow them to replace their bedding and dishes and to keep their homes and buildings in anything like a decent state of repair. The amount they are allowed for clothing is not sufficient, and the result is that the father and mother go without, so that the children may get what they need. If they do get any opportunity to earn a few extra dollars, it helps them to buy these necessities. If they do not get it, what are they to do? What can they do?

I plead with the government because I am certain this is just one more retrograde step that we are sliding into, accepting as permanently submerged from three-quarters of a million to one million people—a sort of permanently submerged tenth of our population, ill clothed, ill housed and ill fed. Surely it is not outside the power of this government, even if we are at war, to find government projects on which we can put to work these men who cannot be used in any other way. Maybe some of these men with experience as mechanics may be moved to work in munitions factories and other types of war work, but for those who cannot be so used, surely there are many projects which could be undertaken in this country. There is no shortage of food in Canada, or of building materials, or of labour. Think of the natural resources lying untouched in the great west. Think of the number of these people who could be employed, even if it is only for three months in the year. That would enable them to get their hands on some cash and help them to buy clothing, dishes, furniture and some of the other commodities they need, so that when winter time comes round again and they have to go back on this miserable relief dole, they will at least have been able to replenish their homes and provide their families with some degree of warmth and comfort.

I am not saying this in any spirit of criticism because I know what this problem must be like and I have a feeling that both he and the Minister of Agriculture are sympathetic with what I am now saying, for otherwise I fear there would have been a bigger cut in some departments. I plead with the minister not to allow the fact that we are at war to make us careless about the problem of these people in the backward parts of our community whose condition perhaps is not noticed by the great throng which passes by. Let us not forget them but make some provision this session to give them a chance to earn some money and get at least a reasonable

standard of living. Nobody in this country is free while one man is enslaved, and nobody in this country can enjoy a decent standard of living contentedly if some group of our people is living in these deplorable conditions.

Canada is facing a time of crisis, as the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) has repeatedly said during these last few days, but the thing that collapses first in a country is not the forts or the navies or the armies; the thing that collapses first is the morale of its people, and what caused some nations in Europe to collapse was that their people had lost everything worth fighting for. Unless we give these people for whom I am speaking a new sense of their manhood and womanhood, a new sense of worth in the community, a realization that the people and government of Canada respect them and think of them still in terms of human personality, the morale of these people must gradually be sapped and they will become excellent ground for subversive doctrines and for people to come along and lead them down unfortunate paths.

Mr. McLARTY: Mr. Chairman, as the Prime Minister wishes to make an announcement, I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Progress reported.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION OF THE EARL OF ATHLONE

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, hon. members are aware that the ceremony of installation of the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone as Governor General of Canada will take place in the senate chamber at twelve noon to-morrow. If the bill which passed the house this evening is passed in another place before the ceremony of installation to-morrow, the Earl of Athlone, who by that time will be His Excellency the Governor General, will be asked to give his assent to the bill and such other bills as may be awaiting assent. For that reason I would move that when the house adjourns this evening, it stand adjourned until eleven forty-five o'clock to-morrow morning. By hon. members meeting here at 11.45 a.m., they will receive the formal notice which comes from the secretary of His Excellency the Administrator, informing hon. members that their presence is desired for the purposes of both installation and royal assent to bills. I regret that members of the government will not be able to be in their seats in the house when the message comes because they will be at the station to meet Canada's new