

I want to go back for a moment to the matter of unemployment in the city of Winnipeg. It is the responsibility of the government to explain the situation, but I may state here an opinion that is widely expressed where I come from. It is that we are already experiencing the first slackening of the post-war period. This opinion produces two comments. First, there is resentment that there should be any slackening until victory has been won. Second, it drives home the fact that the problems of the post-war period are with us to-day.

I said earlier that the people I represent have two major anxieties—the mess that obtains at the present time, and the fear that a worse state will be ours when the war is over. I have spent most of my time in discussing the present situation, but I may say that the fact of unemployment now, coupled with the government's anti-labour policies, aggravates the fear of my constituents for the post-war period. If production has to be curtailed now, under the impetus of war, what then, when the war is over?

The Minister of Munitions and Supply, speaking in Winnipeg in November in support of the government candidate in the recent by-election, was reported as saying that he was confident there would be full employment after the war. He is reported to have said that we would have new plants and machinery, thousands of men trained in new skills, and a ready market in the needs of our people for cars, trucks, washing machines and radios. All we would require would be to connect these three factors. Precisely. But the people of Winnipeg North Centre know that we had these same three factors—plant, men and human needs—in the thirties; and yet we had unemployment and poverty.

I represent a people who know that both for the production now of our war needs, and for the production after the war of a high standard of living, we need a basic change in our social structure. Private industry, based on the principle of producing only where profit is to be made, in the vain hope that some benefit of that production will fall like crumbs to those who toil, will not fill the bill. The people who are giving their all in this war are entitled to democracy, to the ownership and control of their own instruments of production, so that they might produce goods, not for the profit of a few, but because they are needed by all.

Our men are not fighting to come home to "pockets of unemployment," to relief, to wage-slavery, to \$20 a month at the age of seventy. They are fighting for a new Canada, in whose life they will participate in every way. That

participation involves a voice in those matters which affect our daily lives. That participation will not be complete, nor shall we have achieved democracy, until our people, through social and cooperative ownership, are in complete control of the economic life of this country, which thus far has been the preserve of private and vested interests, both in war and in peace.

I know that the speech from the throne makes reference to a plan of social insurance. No doubt there are some who imagine that because social insurance, in our view, does not go far enough, we of this group will oppose any steps the government may take in this direction. This is not the case. In fact, since all we have been offered for this session is a select committee, and recalling how long it has taken in the past for other forms of social legislation to pass from the committee stage to the statute books, the chances are that we of this group will find ourselves having to fight for all we are worth to get the government to go ahead with its present intentions, whatever they may be.

But, although we may prod the government to implement its own ideas, let me make it clear that I represent a people who agree with the position taken by this group, that social insurance is not enough. It will not be the century of the common man until we have social justice. What is the difference? Social insurance under capitalism is a means whereby those who are subject to unemployment, sickness, invalidity, and insecurity pool their meagre earnings so that when calamity falls they can be kept alive. So long as we endure capitalism, such will be necessary. Social justice, however, involves an economy in which those who toil, being part of the community, own the productive machinery of the nation and therefore receive every day and every month and every year their full and just share of the wealth they produce.

To-day, the workers and farmers produce the nation's wealth, but get only a meagre portion of it. There is no justice under such a system. Charity and insurance are the best that can be offered. But one day this Canada will become a real democracy, and the workers and farmers will do two things; they will increase our production, and they will get their fair share of what they produce in a high standard of living through the whole of life, including full protection against sickness and invalidity, together with security and dignity in old age.

Speaking, however, of the government's references to social insurance and social security there are one or two comments I would like to make. First, I may say that the coun-