

*Relief and Agricultural Distress*

not seem to have the guts to do it. Listen to this: it is the Minister of Labour speaking, dealing with trade expansion:

The government never suggested a cure for unemployment could be found in government spending on public works. It believed the true cure lay in expanding trade and expanding industrial activity.

Just let us give thought to that for a moment, and see how stupid it is. If we are depending upon foreign trade to absorb the youth of this country back into industry, I say we are going to fail. To-day Germany is producing more internally and becoming less dependent upon imports. Now, since Germany has taken over Austria, the same policy will prevail in the latter country. Japan is making its inroads into China, and will industrialize that nation. Every country in the world is marching towards economic nationalism, and personally I believe it is a sound policy. To me it seems stupid that before the people of Canada can consume part of their own goods they must sell the bulk of them outside the country. The greatest market we have is the home market right here. I can point to a million people in this dominion who could do with more clothes and who could eat more than they are getting. Thousands of children are suffering from malnutrition, while we are looking for foreign markets. Do not hon. members opposite think it is time something was done? It is time we checked up, and compared the orthodox with the new. Is it not time we faced facts, instead of blindly following some one who has no intention of doing anything?

I know more than any other hon. member what the depression has cost the youth of the country. I was one of them. I knew what it was, too, to seek a job. I waited anxiously for the government of that day to do something. What did they do?—the same as the present government is doing; nothing. That government did nothing, while those men spent the best years of their lives trying to bolster up their confidence in democracy and parliament. I am quite convinced this government will never move until its political solidarity is challenged, and I hope that in Saskatchewan this year we may see the Liberals get a sound licking. I would like to see them lose the majority in the legislature. Money will not win for them out there; it may have in the past, but it will not this time. The issues are too keenly felt in the minds of the people. I shall be in the field to do my best to tell the people that this government has failed to carry out its promises.

[Mr. Poole.]

Hon. members opposite ask us what we would do. We would issue national credit. We believe that anything which is physically possible is financially possible. We believe, further, that an economic system must provide an abundance of all things for distribution to every man, woman and child, and we believe, further, that in an age of abundance every individual should have at least the same status as an animal, and should have security, food, clothing and shelter.

God did not give the big industries in Canada all the blessings they now have. They stole them, and cheated and chiselled the people out of them. Seventy-five per cent of the members of this house do not understand the greatest problem confronting them, namely, the problem of money power. They refuse to listen, because the views expressed do not meet with their approval. They are Liberals, who want to continue to be Liberals. They are progressives who continue to stand still and mark time.

Well, I believe I represent other views. Democracy suits me very well, so long as it works; but when my rights, and the rights of the generation to follow me are denied, I challenge it. When I see parliament refusing to do anything, and when I see the government pussy-footing around with the people, and fooling them, election after election, I for one will rise to my feet any day of the week and tell the government what I think of it. Either the government have not the intestinal fortitude to tackle the problem, or they do not know what the trouble is. I demand in the house to-night that the government bring in a concrete suggestion to absorb the youth of Canada into production. I demand for Canadians what the Liberal party promised them, namely, that they would bring about reforms, and that they would issue credit in terms of public need. Nothing short of that will satisfy the people of Canada; nothing short of that will provide a solution.

I should like to be like most members and speak in well modulated tones and in beautiful English. But my feelings are too keen. Many times while I sit in the house it is hard for me to restrain myself when I listen to hon. members discussing the vital questions of the day, and dealing with them in such an irrelevant manner. The problem is before us. It is a simple one, despite what professional economists may say. An economic system must produce goods of every variety. We have an abundance in Canada. We have youth, the greatest asset—human life. We