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PRESS CLIPPINGS

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Office of
the Leader of the Opposition

Name of Publication.....

Date.....

Subject.....

Preservation of Beauty.

Equally important is the preservation, in more ways than one, of what we now have of natural beauty itself, and also of forest wealth. What I believe the country would welcome, above all else, would be a comprehensive scheme of urban and rural improvements. Such a scheme would appropriately include the clearance of slum areas, housing programs, the painting and repair of buildings and fences, both in the cities and the country; and, of scenic development, which would serve to make of Canada a country second to none for tourists and to afford to the people fuller opportunities of recreation and the enjoyment of natural beauty. Indeed, all projects might readily be made to contribute to these ends. The interests of tourists and the enjoyment of our citizens generally could, for example, be promoted by making many a highway into a tree-way, and by making accessible, and improving the approaches, to areas of great national beauty. The development of our national parks might well be supplemented by the creation of a larger number of smaller parks. Much of national importance might also be accomplished by the preservation of historic sites and monuments and the beautification of their surroundings.

All this could be worked out by the commission as part of a long-range scheme of national development, to be proceeded with or discontinued, from time to time, as conditions might determine. The employment

which it would serve to create would be all in the nature of constructive work. Comprehensive measures of the kind would serve to increase the social capital of the country as distinct from its private capital. It would improve and beautify our country. Moreover, it is work which would appeal to the imagination, and which should arouse the interest and enthusiasm of those who may be assigned to it.

Single Unemployed.

Especially would co-ordinated effort of the kind make its appeal to the single, homeless, unemployed, who, engaged thereon, at this time of distress and discouragement, would be made to feel that they were citizens in every sense of the word, and engaged upon the country's work. While, necessarily, there must be a difference in the rate of payment to persons dependent on the state from that paid to persons employed by private enterprise, so that there will always be an inducement for men to enter private occupations, as opportunities arise, wages should be paid for this class of service. The commission would be especially requested to consider the early transfer of the relief camps from the control of the Department of National Defence, and to enlist the co-operation of every possible agency likely to be of service in the permanent establishment of young unemployed men in the normal economic life of the country.

Ladies and gentlemen: In my three radio broadcasts I have tried to place before you, in language both simple and direct, the situation in Canada, as it is viewed by the party which I have the honor to lead, and which has accorded me its fullest confidence and loyalty during a period of leadership approaching sixteen years. Towards myself, however, in other relationships, its confidence and loyalty has extended over a much longer period of time. I was a comparatively young man when I was invited by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to enter his cabinet as minister of labor of Canada. For eight years before that time, I had held the position of deputy minister of labor, having been appointed to that office on the recommendation of the present Chief Justice of Ontario, the Right Honorable Sir William Mulock. That appointment was made, because of my special interest in, and study of social and economic problems, for years previous. To trace the sources of that interest, I should have to speak of matters too personal, and to which I would not be justified in referring at this time.