

With regard, therefore, to providing work by reason of the actual hauling of the coal, we find the following:

	Days' work
Railway trainmen.. . . .	20,000
Railway yardmen.. . . .	8,000
Railway car and locomotive repairs.. . . .	3,000
To supply fuel for locomotives.. . . .	7,900
	38,900
Return haul.. . . .	31,120
	70,020

On the actual mining, preparation and loading of the coal at the mine, we can quote the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Their figures show that every three tons of coal give a day's employment. It is quite apparent, therefore, that in the mining of 500,000 tons of Alberta coal, with one day's work for each three tons, a total of 166,666 days' work would be provided.

We then have the following:

	Days' work
Railway work days.. . . .	70,020
Production.. . . .	166,666
	236,686

That is, by giving Western Canada a \$5 rate on coal it is estimated 236,686 days' work would be required.

If we are to recover our prosperity in Canada we must use in every possible way, and to the greatest possible extent, the resources that are or can be developed in our own country. As long as hundreds of millions of dollars go out of Canada for coal and oil and such other natural resources as we have in unlimited quantities, we cannot expect to have the prosperity that we could otherwise command. If Western coal and Eastern coal were used by central Canada, both East and West would have the purchasing power to buy manufactured goods from central Canada. If \$200,000,000 were distributed in Canada as a result of the production and utilization of our own coal, oils and other products, our wheels of industry would be speeded up.

There are those who believe that the return to prosperity is in sight, but until the economic question is solved and the unemployed are put to productive labour we cannot hope for permanent recovery. We have on the one hand natural resources which are, in proportion to population, such as no other country in the world possesses; on the other hand, we have nearly one-tenth of our population unemployed. It is for the Government of the country to initiate, by constructive and productive employment, the development of these resources. If the policy of direct relief continues it will become a greater and greater burden to the country and will make for a degenerate citizenship, which is doubtless the most vicious result of such a policy. But by

Hon. Mr. MICHENER.

a constructive policy of remunerative production, by the State, of our national necessities, and by the opening up and development of our vacant lands, our oil and our minerals, not only should we make it possible for the unemployed to help keep themselves by earning their own way, but we should also promote the creation and development of new wealth for the nation. In the course of, say, five years, I have no doubt, the returns from the increased production of gold and oil would in themselves repay the total expenditures incident to the initiation of such national enterprises; whereas unless something constructive and creative is done by the Government to provide work, in addition to charity, for the large army of unemployed, we shall have discontent, unrest and trouble.

It may be said that my suggestions involve to a certain extent the principle of state socialism. I reply that it is better to have state socialism—if you call it such—for the employment of our unemployed, than to create a condition that might encourage some radical group to try either by the ballot or by force to establish a more radical state socialism than most of us would care to contemplate.

If in 1930, when we had fewer than 200,000 unemployed, the Government felt there was such a grave national situation that a special session of Parliament should be called to deal with it, surely to-day the fact that we have two to three times that number of unemployed facing a third winter of desolation, poverty and want is a matter of greater national concern.

The leader of the Opposition in another place suggests a conference of all governments, philanthropic societies, churches, etc., to consider what should be done about unemployment, and he thinks there should be a business administration under a department of the Government to carry out relief work. In his opinion our honourable colleague the ex-Minister of Labour (Hon. Mr. Robertson) tried to do what was physically and humanly impossible when last he was in office.

This unemployment problem is so urgent that all parties of this Parliament should get together to seek a solution before we prorogue. The Minister of Labour is credited with saying that no man, woman or child must go without food and clothes in this country, which has had such a bountiful harvest. This statement will be welcomed throughout Canada by those in distress, but far more welcome would be some plan that would give employment—for it is work, not charity, that most of the destitute need. If we proceed year after year with direct relief, we shall have an army of