

*Unemployment*

the farmer against crop failures and storm damage, and to help bolster farm income.

The hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Croll) has also suggested a measure to encourage the construction industry to expand its winter operations, and I hope this suggestion will receive serious consideration. But, so far as internal economic forces are concerned, if my hon. friends want to know what this government has done over the years, and is still doing, all they have to do is to turn to page 1634 of *Hansard* and study the policy outlined on Tuesday, March 1, by the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe). I have condensed that policy into 12 main points, and I should like to place them on record here, because I think they are worth repeating and worth keeping in mind. They are as follows:

1. A gradual lowering of income tax, sales tax and excise tax over a period of years;
2. Easier money with lower interest;
3. International trade conferences to try to stabilize world trade;
4. Increased export credit insurance;
5. Increased unemployment benefits and other social security payments to bolster consumer purchasing power;
6. Orderly marketing of grain products;
7. Price support on farm products;
8. Storm damage assistance;
9. Aid to fish production;
10. Subsidies and subventions to the mining industry;
11. Anti-dumping regulations, and,
12. Increased public works expenditures and the provision of federal funds for construction projects to offset the decline in defence expenditures.

I suggest to my hon. friend from Burnaby-Coquitlam (Mr. Regier) that these are more than mere talk. This is action. This is a program that has been carefully planned and carried out for years as the policy of the Liberal party. It is a policy designed to create the kind of economic climate that will not only permit but encourage free enterprise to exercise all its initiative and resourcefulness, and to co-operate with government and other agencies so that all may make their greatest contribution to the solution of the unemployment problem.

The stability of the Liberal party and the soundness of Liberal financial policy have created faith in Canada and in Canada's future. This faith is reflected in the ever-growing confidence shown by investors at home and abroad. The Minister of Trade and Commerce and his colleagues have done for Canada a job that has not been paralleled

anywhere in the world. That does not mean that nothing more can be done. The hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Croll) made a suggestion that accelerated depreciation be permitted to those industries which manufacture goods for the export market and which are capable of expansion. This, too, seems to be a good suggestion and I hope it will be adopted.

Before closing, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say something about those human forces which in many ways are the most important of all, because they very often control and determine the intensity and direction of other forces that affect the unemployment problem. Fear of working himself out of a job very often causes the worker to loaf or to slow down, thus contributing to higher building costs and higher rentals. Fear of loss or greed of gain often determines whether firms will continue to pile up inventories or unload them on the public out of all normal proportions. Selfishness on the part of an individual or of a group who insist on taking their pound of flesh, regardless of who is to pay the price, can set off a chain reaction that will hurt every other group in the country.

It will be seen that these human forces are associated with the root causes of unemployment because they underlie the motives of everything we do. In many respects, unemployment can be regarded as a moral disease. There is not much that government, any government, can do about that because a moral disease requires a moral remedy. An economic prescription may alleviate some of the symptoms but it can never effect a cure.

We have often heard it said that the trouble with the world is that man has developed scientifically and technologically much faster than he has progressed morally and spiritually and I think we all accept that more or less as a fact. But why is that so? Why has man's scientific progress so greatly outstripped his moral and spiritual progress? I believe the answer is this. Scientists use only the highest and best standards they know. Scientific standards are as exact and accurate as human skill and mechanical precision can produce. Under fixed conditions of temperature and pressure, scientific standards are always constant and unchanged. They never vary from day to day nor from one place to another. A gram weight at normal temperature and pressure is the same in Asia as it is in Europe. A cubic centimetre at normal temperature and pressure is the same today as it was 200 years ago and in every part of the world. Furthermore, scientists are never satisfied with their standards, however good they may be. They