

make life easier. Here in the twentieth century we sit in this modern parliament, with this gigantic machine at our disposal to bring about a better life and security for every man, woman and child in this vast dominion; yet we find men rotting in the bread lines of the country. If this were a temporary condition, one could well understand it. If it were because we had no place to put men, no work for men to do, again we could understand it. But we have the natural resources. Those are the facts which confront us; those are facts which even the government must admit. We have the natural resources. We have the need. We could initiate a scheme now that would mean the construction of 150,000 houses. The material is available here. The man power is here. The need is here. What are we waiting for? How can a democratic parliament sit here and do nothing? How can any party promise the people anything when we have given to somebody else the very thing which is essential if we are to fulfil that promise? If we were living in the days of 1742, in the age of scarcity, we might well understand the attitude of this parliament. In that age all men had to work or starve. But since the beginning of the steam age, since the invention of combustion engine, since electrical energy was provided by science, we have overcome the greatest problem which confronted mankind prior to that time; that was the problem of scarcity. But we are still basing our government policies on scarcity, while actually we are living in such abundance that it is embarrassing to the orthodox administrators in an age of plenty.

Many times I have said to the Liberal members of the house, and I say it again to-night: If you want to find the cost of unemployment in this country, I would advise you to leave at home your statistics and your costs in dollars and cents; find out what it has cost in human depravity. I wish some hon. members could have the experience I have had. How many hon. members have been in the soup kitchens across Canada? Maybe they do not want to go; maybe they have no sons there. How many have gone to seek a job? Have any of the Liberal members done that? One hon. member says, "ha, ha." Let me tell you, my friend, that you cannot laugh the problem out of existence. I challenge this government or any member of it to solve this problem without monetary reform. I say to my hon. friend that if he will go into the soup kitchens of this country; if he will go among the poor—and remember they are the only people not represented in

this parliament—he will come back a more enlightened man and a far better member of parliament in terms of constructive suggestions to the government.

I have often wondered whether it is the Liberal party that is wrong or whether I am wrong; but every day in this house, no matter what the question, whether it be soldiers' pensions, whether it be old age pensions, whether it be public works, whether it be the building of highways or homes, everybody expresses a desire to do these things; and the strange part about it is that they even go on the public platform and promise to do them. The Minister of National Defence (Mr. MacKenzie), who is not in his seat to-night, made those promises in the recent by-election. Those promises were made in 1935. They said, "We will build homes." I wonder if the Liberal party is just waiting until it is a little closer to the next election, so that it can go to the people and say, "Well, we have started. Do not put us out now, because if the Conservatives or any other party come into power, they will just stop all this work." It is a crying shame that the people of Canada should be subjected to this duplicity and betrayal.

I often wish I were in the Liberal party, for one purpose only, that is, to tell the Liberal party in caucus just what I thought about their policies. Of course there is always this danger, that any Liberal who opposes the government too strenuously may not remain in the party. But I do not value my seat in the house unless I can make some contribution. We were sent down here to do a job, not to pussy-foot around or to make such asinine suggestions as to build up the tourist trade and sell trinkets to tourists in order to solve our unemployment problem.

The greatest asset of a nation is the youth of the country. We may feel quite safe and content to-night; but remember that prior to 1914 the people of Germany were just as democratic as we are; and so with the people of Austria. They loved their democratic institutions just as much as we do; but when the crisis which confronts us to-night confronted Germany in 1932, a man, whether rightly or wrongly, took the helm and made one appeal. That was to the youth of Germany. It will not be very long before some man will make an appeal to the youth of this dominion, and it will not go unheard. Democracy is fine, provided it is working. It is not working in Canada. In 1935 this government told the people they were going to do something. The government came down here and, in plain English language, it does