

is the only source from which distribution can be made for the continuous employment and sustenance of our people.

The product of our gold mines will in every country find a natural market at stable prices, as gold is still the currency of universal acceptance for the payment of international debit balances; but, in the conditions which prevail throughout the world, increased markets can only be found for other primary products, either while the great nations are feverishly preparing for war or when they are actually engaged in carrying on war.

But the needs of our own people are manifold and ever increasing, and I am convinced that the satisfactory solution of the problem of unemployment in this country will chiefly be found in the rapid development and extension of our secondary industries, which are undoubtedly capable of very great expansion.

If members of this government, instead of conducting for months, and even for years past, futile negotiations with the republic to the south of us, which is now really as protectionist in sentiment as in times past, should devote themselves, for a time, to the development of the secondary industries of this country, unemployment would rapidly be abated. The time has come for the government to call into conference our leaders in industry, as well as the leaders of labour, to consider and devise ways and means for extending existing secondary industries and establishing such new industries as would have a reasonable prospect of success under stable tariff and stable monetary conditions.

It is futile to extol, in grandiloquent terms, as we are accustomed to do here, our vast latent natural resources, which will doubtless prove to be sources of vast wealth for succeeding generations of men who are sufficiently intelligent and courageous to take adequate measures for their development and for their utilization to supply the increasing needs of our people. Is this present generation of men and women incompetent to devise and establish ways and means for employing in domestic industry those of our people who are employable and who are now unemployed? I do not think so. We have ample funds and credits available for the purpose. But we can never achieve permanent prosperity by annual grants for temporary relief of the indigent, or by ever increasing our excessive national debt by large expenditures upon unproductive public works. That course only serves to hasten this dominion on the way to ultimate economic ruin; but, by increasing the volume of our domestic industry, by giving reasonable

[Mr. Cahan.]

security to both capital and labour, and by establishing reasonable safeguards against the products of the conscripted labour and low living standards of competing foreign countries, we can and should make Canadians the most prosperous and happy people in the world.

If we can assure industry of stable tariff and monetary conditions for a term of five or ten years, industry can safely guarantee the employment of all labour that may be available. It cannot do so when radical tariff changes are so frequently made that industry cannot foresee the fiscal conditions which will confront it and cannot plan its business with confidence six months in advance. Let this parliament ensure such stable fiscal conditions, and let the government forthwith inaugurate a new deal, a beneficent advance, by convening the leaders of labour and the leaders in industry to devise and put into operation adequate measures to ensure the accomplishment of the ends which we all desire to attain.

Mr. R. W. GLADSTONE (Wellington South): I shall not endeavour to follow in a critical or analytical vein the very fine speech of the hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Mr. Cahan). A gentleman highly trained in the law, he has turned his marked ability today to the discussion of certain phases of our economic and trade problems. My inclinations and training turn me usually to a consideration of the business side of government, but I should like to offer the hon. gentleman my words of tribute and praise for the fine service over many long years which he has rendered in this parliament to the people of Canada.

We have listened to many excellent speeches on the motion to adopt the address in reply to the speech from the throne. We have before us an amendment proposed by the leader of the opposition (Mr. Manion). The amendment adds to the motion one short paragraph, twice containing the words "the government has failed." We have an amendment to the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth). This accepts the amendment proposed by the leader of the opposition and adds thereto certain opinions respecting financial institutions and monopolistic enterprises. In his proposed amendment the leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation expresses views with which in part I have much sympathy, but he has tied himself up with the leader of the opposition in a way that precludes me from voting with him on this occasion. The government may not have achieved everything that many of us would wish, but the government has not failed. Despite some distress,