

dollars are probably costing forty dollars now. The saving of forty dollars by a million people means a national saving of forty million dollars. Every one knows that all of us, both men and women, have more clothing than we need. In olden times clothes were worn to protect the body, and not for show.

Mr. BUTTS: Has any country in the world a greater railroad mileage per capita than Canada?

Mr. BALDWIN: Although I have travelled somewhat I am afraid I cannot answer that question. My hon. friend should put his question to the Minister of Railways. I think, however, that my statement as to railway mileage in this country is correct. I was going on to say that a policy of work and save will save this country. We must economize and do the things that go with it. There must be a better feeling among the people. We have got to make ourselves a people who will extend a cordial helping hand. We must extend good cheer and the brightness of our nature to improve the appalling state of affairs in this country to-day. It seems to me it is worse than a disease, or an epidemic. I believe that this Government has got a tremendous burden upon its shoulders. Now is the accepted time and the day of salvation—not the day for procrastination. If commissions are going to do the work of the Government I would suggest that we amend our constitution. Our representation in this House is based upon the population of Quebec, and I would suggest that Quebec send a member to this House from each judicial district. That would reduce the membership of this House by two-thirds. If this country is going to be run by commissions and Orders in Council, if Orders in Council are going to do the work which the elected representatives of the people are sent here to do, the adoption of my suggestion would mean a big saving to the country.

I remarked in this House some months ago, that I thought the Cabinet should be reduced by two-thirds, and if necessary have bureaus to help them along. I do not hear any hon. members cheering that suggestion, so I think it is fair to assume that it will not be acted upon.

I hope the War Measures Act will be dispensed with as speedily as possible and that its provisions will be resorted to no longer. I think that the Franchise Act is the cause of the unrest in Canada to-day. Indeed, I think it is largely respon-

sible for the gravest features of the unrest, and the Government should introduce as early as possible a franchise measure that will give to every man who has not committed any act of violence in this country, and who in the past has exercised the franchise, the right to vote. This right should not be based upon any racial line of demarcation, but should be within the reach of every citizen who commits no breach of law. I am as much a supporter of law and order as any other hon. member of this House, and I am just as ready to see those punished who commit acts of violence and merit punishment. The Franchise Act should be based on the provincial lists. It would be less expensive to the country and would be fair. Municipalities prepare those lists and know just who should vote.

In regard to the housing question, I believe that this matter is wrong in every respect. It is not going to help the people in the rural sections, and they are the people whom we want to help. The farmers and poor people of the country need assistance, and I advocated last year the establishment of national reserve banks by means of which a farmer could secure a certain amount of money, two-thirds say, of the equity in his estate. I observe that an eminent authority, a banker of high standing, recently expressed the opinion that there should be national reserve banks in Canada.

As regards roads, I think the sum of \$25,000,000 has been set aside for the improvement of highways. This is a matter that appeals very strongly to every one who lives in a rural section. Cities can connect with one another only by way of the country, and this question is therefore important to people in the country. What struck me as a notable fact was that the members from Ontario said that for every dollar that was appropriated in this project only 65 cents went into the road, while 35 cents went somewhere else. This is not true in the case of the province from which I come, where everything was done that was possible and every cent expended went on the highways and not into somebody's pocket. While I am on this subject, let me say that the roads and public works of Canada should provide means of employment for every criminal from every jail and penitentiary and internment camp in the country. In other words, every man who is fed and clothed by the Dominion of Canada should work for the Dominion. This is a most opportune time, now that the returned soldier is back in