

temperance. I think he was most sensible and showed the clergy of Canada how they should act. If they would give the leadership that the Prime Minister of Canada gave, they will be leading in the right direction. I commend the reading of that speech to hon. members.

I should like to say a word about Fort William. The Department of National Defence hit us rather hard this year when they took away our fine skating rink to make it into an armoury. However, the sports and athletes of Fort William are not to be beaten. They have made other skating rinks, and hockey games are being played every night all over the city. After the war they will be able to provide the finest of hockey players for the rest of Canada and the United States. I would remind the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Fournier) that there is a petition piled high in the Department of Public Works asking for an armoury. But we did not get it, and I did not push for it any harder than I ought to in this house.

I should like to thank the Department of Public Works, the minister and his officials, also the Postmaster General (Mr. Mulock) and his officials, for allowing us to use the basement of the new post office for a dry canteen. It was taken over by a group of unselfish women; a lot of money has been spent on it, and it is at present the best used place at the head of the lakes. It is all right to have enough to wet one's whistle with, when you wet it right. This dry canteen is now in difficulties because, while the building is fireproof, these young men and young women are denied the right to dance.

I should like to mention a few of the things that we have at the head of the lakes. We have farmers there who are just a little bit restless owing to lack of farm help. Some of them have had to sell out on that account. I think it should be made perfectly clear to the farmers of Canada that any man who is essential to the work of the farm will be left on the farm. I know that the registrars of the selective boards are doing a great job and that it is their duty to find men for the armed forces, but men are also essential to carry on agriculture.

The resources we have at the head of the lakes are astounding. The other night I heard an address by a specialist of the Great Lakes Pulp and Paper company, and he convinced me that if the pulp and paper resources of the Thunder Bay district were utilized to the full they would provide work for everybody in the district and for far more than that. As a result of recent scientific discoveries, wood and pulp are taking the place of steel, and the gentleman who gave this address convinced

[Mr. McIvor.]

me that we had enough resources in the timber limits of the Thunder Bay district to keep everybody working.

Our city is now organized for the reconstruction period that will come after the war. At the head of the lakes we have also shipping, and mining, and I should like to read now a resolution from the city of Fort William which was pressed home. It is as follows:

That the attention of the provincial and dominion governments be again drawn to the fact that a vast deposit of nickel and other valuable minerals is being allowed to lie undeveloped near Shebandowan lake in the district of Thunder Bay and that this property is practically untaxed.

This council feels that the owners should be required to develop this ore deposit or in default of this, the government should have thorough tests made of the ores and arrangements made to have same put into channels of production for the benefit of the united nations in this struggle.

West of Fort William we have perhaps the most outstanding mining area in the whole Dominion of Canada, and we are grateful to know that the "Go" signal has been given by both the provincial government and the dominion government to the Steep Rock mine. This is perhaps the finest source of hematite ore that there is in Canada. According to Judge McKay and Julian G. Cross, an eminent mining engineer, our iron ore apart from nickel and other types of ore at the head of the lakes, if developed, would make the whole Dominion of Canada boom.

I should like now to say a word to the men in Canada who I think have been wronged by the war. There is no group of men who have been harder hit by the war than the commercial travellers. One of them came to me and told me that he took out a life insurance policy two years ago, paying a premium of \$501, but at the end of the second year he had to let his policy lapse because the sales of the article he was selling had been so drastically curtailed. That insurance policy had cost him \$1,002, and all he received from the company when the policy lapsed was \$235. In two years the insurance company made out of that commercial traveller \$767. I have apprised the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) of the facts of this case. I do not think any insurance company should be allowed to get away with that sort of thing; I care not whether they contribute to the victory loans or anything else. It is practically taking away what does not belong to them.

I should like to speak for half an hour on the need for extending the old age pension, but I am sure that this subject will be well taken care of by others. A government like ours which has fathered the old age pension,