

market. He pays more in another direction, also, because industry in the doldrums finds ways and means of reducing costs, generally at the expense of labour and, as has happened time and again, during the last five years the cost of maintaining that unemployed labour has fallen upon the state at large. The agricultural population of Canada asks for a reduction in the duties on agricultural implements; they ask for reductions in the price of agricultural implements. They ask for such reductions because they desire to place themselves in a position to produce at a price that will enable them to sell their product in the markets of the world in competition with Russia, Roumania, Argentina and other countries.

The hon. member for Greenwood wailed and lamented over the hardships of the industrial worker. May I tell him that if western Canada gets a crop and can market that crop at a fair price he need have no misgivings or worries so far as the industrial worker is concerned. Owing to conditions in western Canada during the last five years there is not a farm that does not need new implements, new hardware, new furniture, paint, glass, repairs of every kind that you can think of. If we get that crop—and it is coming, six inches of snow in western Canada last Friday—that good crop we are always hoping for, I say to the hon. member that he need have no worry about unemployment in the industrial plants; they will be so busy supplying the wants of western Canada that they will not even be able to take time off for lunch.

Yesterday the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Hyndman) deprecated and deplored the fact that large amounts of money were being voted for western Canada without corresponding votes for Ontario, and he asked the reason. May I briefly tell him. In the years 1928 to 1935 in western Canada farmers have been frozen out, everything except the mortgages, dried out, everything except the mortgages, rusted out, everything except the mortgages, blown out, everything except the mortgages, prices declined for everything except the mortgages, and there is to-day such an accumulation of debt and such a condition has been created because there was no production that they were unable to maintain themselves. Because of the conditions the former government advanced large sums to western Canada—and I commend them for the action they took—and this government has continued and enlarged upon that policy for the benefit of those people who have suffered in what may rightly be called a national

calamity. And may I say to the hon. member that if his county of Carleton should ever be so afflicted, which God forbid, the province of Saskatchewan and western Canada will extend to that county a helping hand. They would marshal the assets of western Canada to come to their rescue, as an expression of our conception of what confederation means, and in direct and definite appreciation of what has been done for us.

There is another point I had intended to deal with; I shall touch on it only in one way, and that is to express the disappointment and dissatisfaction of the general public at the fact that the automotive industry has found it necessary to increase the price of cars by the increase in the sales tax which has been imposed. Canada has dealt kindly and generously with the automotive industry. General Motors has 43,000,000 shares issued, and at to-day's price they have a value of \$2,870,000,000. No one ever believes that General Motors is able to maintain fifty-three high-priced executives in the United States on a profit of only seventy-five cents on a car. Then look at Ford Motor Company, incorporated in 1904 with an initial investment of \$125,000. That company has paid in cash dividends \$22,813,000. They have re-invested undistributed profits approximating \$27,000,000. That original \$125,000 investment is now represented by 1,400,000 no par value shares which have a value on the markets of New York to-day of over \$31,000,000. The people of Canada have dealt kindly and generously with the Ford Motor Company. I agree that it is a great institution, but I think the Ford Motor Company might have found ways and means of absorbing that small increase in the sales tax and set an example to Canadian industry, inspiring some degree of confidence in the minds of the afflicted farmer and those who have suffered so much.

Now, if I have a moment I would like to say a word on behalf of the blind. For twelve years the blind people have been coming to this parliament. For twelve successive years they have been showered by this house with platitudes. We have sympathized with them in their affliction; we have spoken to them in the most generous language, but we have never done anything for them except a minor vote once in a while. We were taught in our youth that nature and divine providence have a simple way of exacting compensation for our refusal to obey her laws and precepts. If that applies to individuals it applies likewise to nations, I firmly believe. It may be that the troubles and difficulties which we have