

It is well that that truth should be kept in mind. It is this paralysis of fear, which has spread throughout the nations to-day, which more than anything else, as I have said, is responsible for the fact that we have not the extent of industrial development that we should otherwise have. Where there is faith and good will between nations you begin to get natural investments of capital and labour alike in industry; but until that condition is restored we shall have this problem of the unemployed with us.

My hon. friend the leader of the opposition, says it ought to be the business of the federal government to solve the labour problem. He chided me this evening with not having tasted hardship in my early days. I am not going into that sort of thing to-night. My love for the poor goes a good deal farther back than that. Since he has said what he has, however, I will give to the house to-night a passage that is dearer to my heart than any other. It is from the life of one of my ancestors who played in the history of this country a part that had a good deal to do with the well-being of the working classes. They are words he uttered when, as I am to-night, he was chided because of his interest in the poor and humble. This is what he said:

Well may I love the poor. Greatly may I esteem the humble and the lonely, for poverty and adversity were my nurses and in youth were want and misery my familiar friends. Even now it yields a sweet satisfaction to my soul that I can claim kindred with the humble, obscure cottar of my ever-loved, ever-honoured Scotland.

"Long may thy hardy sons of rustic toil
Be blest with health and peace and sweet
content."

If my hon. friend wishes to know where those words came from, in one of the addresses he read to-night, I have given him their source. They have been a real inspiration to me in all my public life and in all my work, and they will be until the day I die. I do not forget to-night, nor have I forgotten at any time in my public life, that my own mother was born when her father was in exile at a time when her parents had not the wherewithal to buy food sufficient to feed their own family. If I have taken some interest, and I have taken a little, in the welfare of the working classes; if I was inspired to try to help to build up a Department of Labour in this country in which I served first for eight years as deputy minister and subsequently as minister; if as Prime Minister I continue to be interested in the cause of labour and seek by legislation to effect what may be helpful to the great body

of the working people, the hon. gentleman now knows the reason for it.

My hon. friend talks about my having written a book. He has read from a pamphlet containing some of my radio addresses. I am very glad that he read from it, because this house will have an opportunity now to contrast the kind of writing that appears in that book with the writing that appears in his own. My hon. friend has also written a book, "Life is an Adventure", and it, too, is bound in red. Red was once a colour familiar to him. What has he to say? I will read something from page 294 that he has written on the question of unemployment:

The other three causes for that overwhelming defeat—

He is referring to the defeat of the Conservative party at the last election.

—were: (a) world-wide depression with its accompanying unemployment and unrest.

Is not that what I have been speaking of to-night? That is the cause, unquestionably, but he gives other causes.

(b) the absolute lack of any organization or publicity bureau until it was too late.

(c) the so-called Reconstruction party—

He has had a good deal to say to-night about the abolition of third parties. He is very proud of his association at the moment. But listen to this:

(c) The so-called Reconstruction party leader's frank attempt to wreck the party and friends with whom he had been associated for a quarter of a century in the egotistical expectation that he would be at least the leader of the opposition with its emoluments of office.

I will not say that, in the passage I have just read, you have the measure of my hon. friend's colleague the former leader of the Reconstruction party, whom he has now at his side, but I will say that you have the measure of my hon. friend the Leader of the Opposition.

Now let me return to some of the figures with regard to unemployment. My hon. friend this afternoon sought to have it appear that there was no such thing as a board of registration. He said that we had this commission on employment, but that it had done nothing. Well, I tried to excuse him a little earlier by saying that he had been out of the house in the last three years and that there were therefore some things that he was not aware of. One of them was the fact that the employment commission did start a system of registration, the first of its kind we have had, of registering those who are on relief. The statistical bureau has kept a record of those employed, but the first records kept of