

industrial and social legislation an effort should be made to overcome any question of jurisdiction between the Dominion and the provinces by effective co-operation between the several governments.

Up to date there has been no provision whatever for unemployment insurance. Last year's committee of this House prepared a report on old age pensions. That report, however, was only presented and was not recommended to this House, and the Speech from the Throne gives no indication whatever that action along this line is contemplated. As to maternity benefits and sickness benefits, these have not even been mooted.

3. The representation of labour on federal commissions pertaining to labour matters.

We might very well have representation, as has been asked for by the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, on the Industrial Research board and other boards. That seems a very reasonable request.

4. Effective legislation for the conservation of human life and health.

In the past year or so there has been a distinct tendency to cut estimates along these lines rather than to make more abundant provision for the conservation of life and health.

5. The representation of labour on the board of directors of the Canadian National Railways.

I gladly admit that this has been done, and we have the president of the Trades and Labour Congress, one member on the board, representing labour.

6. That the system of re-training soldiers, unfitted for their past work because of physical injuries, be extended to disabled workers in industry.

I have been unable to learn that any steps have been taken to make good this pledge.

7. More effective restriction of Chinese immigration.

In face of this, we had last year the iniquitous regulation—I can call it no other—of permitting Chinese in bond to work on the boats of the British Empire Steel Corporation.

8. The federal incorporation of co-operative associations.

This has been urged again and again. What action the government will take on a resolution in this regard before the House at this session remains to be seen; but when two years ago we in this corner of the House pressed for legislation that would permit of the organization of co-operative banks, it was refused us.

9. The acceptance of the principle of proportional representation.

The government may possibly say that it agrees with the principle. Certainly, it has not put it into practice because we have had

that proposed from this side and it has not received government support.

10. Immediate and drastic action by the government with respect to the high cost of living and profiteering.

Perhaps we should hope along this line, for at this fourth session of parliament the Governor General's Speech offers to us the prospect that the government may still continue to consider this matter.

11. Restoration of the control of the executive by parliament, and of parliament by the people through a discontinuance of government by order in council and a just franchise and its exercise under free conditions.

I do not know that we have had government by order in council. I think we have been a good deal freer in that regard than we were during war-time. But I would point out the danger that we may substitute government by commission, because in recent years, not altogether by this government, but by previous governments, there have been erected powerful commissions that are not very directly responsible to this parliament. Further, we have had one or two examples of what might be termed government by department. I think of the case of a man refused entry to this country not in accordance with regulations passed by this parliament, but because of certain regulations decided upon by the then Minister of Immigration. We have had placed before us this charter of Labours Rights by the Liberal Association, and no doubt many labour men have been induced to support the Liberal government because they believed the government would carry out at least some of the provisions contained in this charter. Labour has been patient, perhaps too patient. At this fourth session of parliament we might surely have expected that something would be done. I do not intend here to urge in detail what could be done even under existing circumstances. I should like to suggest to this House, as I have done before, that as we gather together in the comfortable surroundings of this chamber and discuss general principles and statistics, we are very far removed indeed from the great masses of the people of Canada. During the past recess, I have had an opportunity of going across Canada from coast to coast, and I do not find that the people in the east, or the west, or the centre, are very happy. Possibly the Prime Minister and those who accompanied him may have had opportunities of meeting with the well-to-do and those who are profiting by, and comfortable under, existing conditions. I have had an opportunity of coming into very close contact with those who are anything but comfortable or satisfied. I would urge that we