

dian money it is wholly due to the gold mining industry of this country. I believe if all the facts were known the gold mining industry of Quebec and Ontario would open the eyes not only of this section of the continent but of the whole world. This applies with equal force to northern Ontario, to northern Manitoba, to British Columbia and to Alberta. If it is possible to inflate it is purely on account of that primary industry which in this year, 1934, is going to create new wealth to the amount of \$50,000,000, eighty per cent of which comes from northern Ontario. Another large part comes from the northern part of the province of Quebec, and I believe to a certain extent that statement could be applied to the whole northern section of Canada.

Then, may I say that my section of the country has not sufficient radio broadcasting facilities. I know the Minister of Public Works is familiar with the situation, and I have no doubt that some appeal has been made to him, or to some department,—I am not sure just which one it would be. It has come to my knowledge that he has been approached in connection with the expenditure of from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000 for the creation of high powered radio stations in the northern section of the country. I fervently hope—and I am making the same appeal to the Prime Minister and to every member of the government and of the house—that this promise will be supplemented in the very near future—and when I say that I do not mean some time five years from now. I am hoping it will be supplemented under the present public works program. This work would entail a certain expenditure on raw materials; and it would mean that a large number of men would be employed on the construction of such high powered radio stations. Also it would add to the permanent equipment already erected by the government whereby all sections of the Canadian population could have radio facilities. I should be willing to give full credit for such advancement, or any such development.

Something has been mentioned, and very properly so, about contracting. May I say that I know something about contracting. I know that in this country it is the habit in most instances where big contractors find it possible, to sublet some of the work to be done, such as masonry, painting, plastering, flooring, and so on. In some cases it works out all right, but in a great many instances it works out badly for the working man. We were told that protection is afforded by the fair wages clause, and I was very glad to hear that statement from the Minister of Public Works. My fervent wish is, however, that

the subcontractor will not be tolerated, under present conditions. The contractors should not make more money than that to which they are entitled. I maintain that under present working conditions they should not make any more than from six per cent to nine per cent profit on construction work, and that the rest of the money should go to the working men. That would be one of the best ways to relieve distress, and so far as the government is concerned, to have good construction work.

This afternoon the hon. member for East Hamilton (Mr. Mitchell) quite properly referred to the deplorable slum conditions in the Canadian cities. I know that there is a great movement on foot, one which was inaugurated by the lieutenant governor of Ontario, to initiate a construction program whereby those slums may be obliterated, and new buildings and sanitary conditions would be given to the working men. Again I have no quarrel with such a suggestion, and no doubt something will have to be done along that line. But may I suggest that there is another fine class of workers to be helped—the people living in the little log cabins up in the northern section of the country. Under present financial and economic conditions they find it impossible to graduate from the settler to the farmer class. I would not be opposed to the spending of those moneys to improve slum conditions, but I would suggest that such a program should include doing away with the slum conditions in rural sections. Such a program could apply to those little places the people in the northern sections call their homes. I have no doubt hon. members will readily realize the necessity, indeed the urgency of the need, for public expenditures in that direction.

When I spoke on the budget I said that the government ought to inaugurate a program whereby annually a sum of \$5,000,000 could be spent to allow settlers under the jurisdiction of the different provinces of the Canadian federation to build their homes, and to build also barns and stables which they need so very much at the present time. I am in favour of the back to the land movement, but I believe this scheme could be effected by the government and would help the present rural population. It would allow the farmers' sons, young men who by their training, surroundings and mode of living are familiar with the present situation, to continue in their vocations. In northern Ontario hundreds of people are trying to find new occupations, as a result of the back to the land movement. That may be all right, but our own rural population, the people who did the pioneer work and held the line for the last fifteen or twenty years, think it