largely due to the tremendous borrowings which the minister has carried on. He proposes to continue to borrow; therefore he proposes to continue to keep up the high cost of living. He cannot get the real savings of the people, because the people are not able to do very much real saving in these days. Unless the minister takes heed of the warnings that I gave him with such earnestness, if another loan is issued there will be further inflation of credit and of currency, and that will tend to maintain the high cost of living and to bring about a continuation of the conditions that the minister complains of. I solemnly warn the minister that he is only putting off the evil day.

What remedy have I to propose? It is a very difficult thing to remedy the high cost of living; it is due, first of all, to real scarcity, and that scarcity can only be met by real production. But you cannot have real production unless you get labour and capital to pull together, and I do not think that this Government has done all it should do or could do in this connection. What Great Britain did in this respect is worthy of notice. They called together in conference the leaders of the employers and the leaders of the employed, and they, with representatives of the Government, sat down and discussed the whole situation. To such a conference in this country we would have to call representatives of the Provincial Governments. I am sure that upon the ordinary workingman who is suffering to-day from the high cost of living a shifting of responsibility as between the Federal Government and the Government of Ontario must have a bad effect. The Prime Minister is asked to pass an eight-hour-day Bill, and he says—I think, correctly so—that it is outside the jurisdiction of the Federal Government to do so. Then the workers apply to the Premier of the great industrial province of Ontario, who holds up his hands and says: It is none of my business; go and ask Sir Robert Borden, the Prime Minister of Canada; it is his business to have such a law passed. This passing of the responsibility from one to the other does not redound to the credit of the country or add to that prestige we would like government to have in this time of unrest.

Let us have such a conference as I have suggested. Let not the Prime Minister say: We have our Cost of Living Commissioner; we have this commission and that commission, and they are holding conferences day by day. It is not that sort of conference

we want; we want the summoning of an industrial parliament to discuss all these matters. That is the way the people of Great Britain were able to avoid trouble, and I am sure that our work-folk are just as reasonable and just as ready to listen to the other man's side of the question as are the people of Great Britain.

Then, I make another suggestion. I agree most thoroughly with the member for Kingston (Mr. Nickle) who said the other day that to fix prices in the ordinary way might shut off production. But if the high cost of living keeps up, I would ask the Government to consider the advisability of buying up, at prices which will encourage production, such great, staple necessities of life as flour, bacon, oatmeal, perhaps milk, and seeing that they are distributed among the people at reasonable prices. There will be a loss, and that loss will have to be borne by the State. That is what Great Britain did during the course of the war. About 94 per cent, if I mistake not, of the commodities used by Great Britain during the war came through the Government in that fashion. While I dislike paternalism as much as any one does, yet as between paternalism and having people hungry in this country, I prefer to have paternalism.

We now come to the question of the tariff. There has been a reduction of 5 per cent, and on some items of 7½ per cent. This 7½ per cent applies to about 200 items out of about 700 in the tariff schedules. I wish, however, to draw the attention of the minister to this point. There is an apparent mistake in his resolutions, although he may have some explanations to give which will show me that I am wrong. But the minister, in his resolutions, brought down a whole list of items, from which he said that the 5 per cent and the 7½ per cent were duties imposed by the Act of the 8th April, 1915, were being removed. Many on that list of items, however, never had the war tax imposed upon them at all. Let me take these matters up. We find "Coffee, extract of, n.o.p., and substitutes thereof of all kinds; coffee roasted or ground; coffee roasted or ground, when not imported direct from the country of growth and production; coffee, green, imported direct from the country of growth and production, and green coffee purchased in bond in the United Kingdom; green coffee, not otherwise provided." The minister says that he is removing the 5 per cent and the 7½ per cent tax imposed by the Act of April, 1915,