

the Winnipeg Progressive Conservative convention. The wartime prices and trade board regulations have forced men and women out of business. Those men and women have been compelled to sell their stores, their garages, their homes, their farms, and in many instances they have lost their life's savings. But the government has done absolutely nothing to reimburse those people for their losses. Many of them are to-day in want because of government regulations which even the devil himself would have difficulty in deciphering—regulations issued to-day by the wartime prices and trade board, changed to-morrow, changed the next day and perhaps changed the next day, and then perhaps at the end of the week thrown out entirely, and something new offered in their place. It is high time the regulators making these regulations should be regulated. Canadians are willing to put up with almost everything to win the war, and accordingly I suppose we shall have to put up with these regulations until after the conflict is over. I hope—I know—that the end will be victorious.

Canadians are hoping that, when the war is over, the rest of the world will look to Canada and say that Canada saw her duty and did it well. We in Canada must not and will not fail, if we have the proper leadership—leadership such as that offered by Churchill, and by Roosevelt, leadership the British are proud of and the people of the United States are proud of. If we had leadership like that in Canada, our Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) would have been at Casablanca instead of here, at Ottawa, trying to dig up out of the Progressive Conservative policy as laid down at Winnipeg a pre-election platform which he could include in the preparation of the speech from the throne.

I doubt very much whether the government will ever carry out some of the promises contained in the speech from the throne, because they are only promises. On the other hand the policy as laid down at Winnipeg will be carried out. Health insurance and hospitalization have been and are likely to be mentioned many times. In my opinion the house should set up immediately a special committee on health insurance and social security. At the present time we have a measure of unemployment insurance. Most industrial organizations across Canada have a system of health insurance to which the workers contribute. In some instances the plants pay the whole shot. At the present time, however, there is something the worker is worrying about, as well as the storekeeper and others. These men are worrying about sickness in their homes. They feel that if they must send a member

[Mr. G. K. Fraser.]

of their family to the hospital, it will likely take all their life's savings. This has happened in many homes throughout Canada. I was talking to a man the other day who had mortgaged everything he had to pay hospital and doctor's bills for his wife. He had lost everything by reason of sickness.

A committee should be set up to study hospitalization as well as health insurance and such matters. It should consider methods of keeping the people healthy, and ways should be found to stop the spread of disease. The spread of tuberculosis and certain social diseases has caused great unhappiness throughout Canada. Many such cases have come to my attention in the years I have been in welfare work, and this will be borne out by children's aid society and salvation army workers, as well as by ministers and priests. I know I am right when I say that a healthy nation is a happy nation.

In the rural districts there is practically no hospitalization and very little medical care. In isolated districts throughout the north country babies are being born without any medical care, and the mothers know that they will have no medical care. I understand that the Canadian Red Cross Society is taking care of this to some extent by guaranteeing doctors in certain districts an income of \$4,000 a year if they will look after the territory within a radius of twenty-five miles of their office. This plan was set out in the *Canadian Medical Journal* of October, 1942.

Canada is spending very little in checking up the health of her people. The report of the auditor general for 1942 shows the following expenditures:

Industrial hygiene.....	\$ 7,294 99
Medical investigations.....	24,007 34
Child and maternal hygiene.....	22,106 18
Public health engineering.....	33,368 44
Nutrition services.....	7,134 46
Venereal diseases.....	49,408 82

I think the government would have been better advised if it had put into our health services the \$1,500,000 which was spent on the plebiscite. I do not think the Minister of Pensions and National Health (Mr. Mackenzie) will contradict me in that statement.

There is something else the government has side-stepped in the speech from the throne. Agriculture is mentioned, but it is just glossed over because the government is really unfamiliar with farm problems since it has not given proper leadership to our farmers during the war years. I called the farmer the forgotten man in 1940, and that term has stuck to him ever since. I think he will always be the forgotten man until we have an absolute change of policy. To-day the farmer is out on a limb, and the government has put him