

ful, and I would say they had. But what will happen if you have this year a normal crop in Canada? It is almost amusing, although tragic, that in the last year or two we have managed to escape a catastrophe in connection with our wheat because providence did not smile on us in respect to wheat production. But suppose providence does smile on us, and we have a normal crop this year, I venture to say it will take all the ingenuity and skill and diplomacy and negotiating power of the government to sell even the crop that is brought on the market this year, or an equivalent amount. So much as regards wheat, which is one of the easiest products to move.

We have opened a market to the United States, and as I said before, I am quite willing to give the government some credit for that. But is it going to make a very material difference to the export of our cattle? Or take the newsprint business; are you going to increase your exports in that line? Where? Tell me where. What the government did in the agreement with the United States was to save us from having duties put against newsprint; and it was a mighty good thing; but are you going to increase the export of newsprint? You might enlarge it a little. If the United States has a period of boom, wherein advertising will be spread over two pages instead of one, there may be an increased demand for newsprint, but I question very much whether it will be accelerated in any large measure. Timber is another of our great exports. Where are you going to sell more of it? If the government can maintain to the United Kingdom, to Australia, and to China the average volume of export that has been taking place for the last five years, it will do mighty well. There is not much room there. Can you increase the export of canned salmon, another important item? Where are you going to sell it? Can you increase the export of manufactured goods? Look what Japan is doing. In respect of rubber products, for instance, such as boots, tennis shoes, belting, tires, she is already driving us out of our markets. Have you any expectation of recovering those markets? I am almost certain that you cannot do it.

And so one goes down the list. In my opinion, Mr. Chairman, and I suggest it is one that the committee should keep in mind, we shall have to fight to hold the markets we have, and if the government is able to maintain them I think it will have done very well; certainly I shall not be critical of them. But that will not solve the unemployment of four hundred thousand people. That is not going to deal with the

great social and economic problems of Canada. I believe we have in this country the elements which will largely contribute to the solution of this problem, but leadership is required, and that leadership must come from Ottawa and nowhere else. I have looked over the provinces, and I recognize the difficulties their governments have to face, but I do not think the solution of this problem is to be found in leadership that will be given by the provinces. Read down the list. The Ontario legislature, the senior provincial house in Canada, is about to prorogue; according to this morning's paper they hope to get through in a week. Show me what they have done this session. Quebec has only got under way, but as far as I can judge there is not much likelihood of any solution coming out of Quebec. The Alberta legislature, I think, prorogued during the last day or two. Its government has been treated with a good deal of scorn throughout the country, but it may well be that Mr. Aberhart, in his attempt to attack the debt problem—whether he is right or wrong, whether his action is good or bad—will have shown about the only practical effort to solve these problems. Point to a single province that has any proposal for the purpose of meeting them. I have not seen it.

Let me point out what it will mean if this parliament is prorogued without our having anything more specific than we have in this bill; let me show how it will work. I refer to section 7, and I would ask the committee to follow me, because this must be read in connection with these other sections:

The commission shall, under the direction of the minister, supervise the expenditure of funds voted by parliament for purposes of relief and providing employment, and perform such administrative duties with respect to relief and employment as may be assigned to it from time to time by the governor in council.

What does that mean, translated into common, everyday language, into the practice of government? It simply means this: The commission will proceed to examine, inquire, analyze, study statistics and make a report. That is its first duty, and that is the first cycle. Then the government will receive and study that report and will determine what it is going to do. That is the next cycle, and that will take some time. That will take probably eight or nine months at the least, and it is possible that some time about the middle of next session the government will bring to parliament a supply vote, under the Prime Minister's system, to give effect to some of these recommendations. Then it will