

right for raising so much wheat and refusing to take advantage of the opportunity at your doors to sell poultry and eggs, and bacon, if you please. That is the sort of thing, Mr. Speaker, this government offers to relieve the difficulties of the western farmer. The farmer is selling eggs at 10 cents a dozen. In 1893 I sold pork, deadweight, in the town of Barrie at 4 cents a pound, and I will have to sell it at that price again if this government remains long in office. I am glad, however, that the demonstration of the effects of their policy will make plain the fallacy of the argument of hon. gentlemen opposite that protection is going to be beneficial to the people of Canada.

Hon. gentlemen opposite have increased the tariff to help the manufacturing industry. They are going to provide employment for 250,000 men in Canada right away. They were going to cure unemployment by means of the tariff. I shall not say anything about the \$20,000,000 for unemployment relief, except that it has my full support. I say, however, that there was no necessity for the government calling a special session for the purpose of voting that money, despite what the leader of the government has said this afternoon. If he had asked for a governor general's warrant for that amount I am sure he would have received the support of both sides of the house. But that was not his object. He was going to cure unemployment by increasing the tariff. What has happened? We have had now eight months of this policy. Highly paid writers are contributing articles to the *Montreal Star*, claiming improvement in the manufacturing industry, and if you do not happen to read the paper they are good enough to send you a pamphlet containing these articles. My right hon. friend the leader of the government this afternoon told us with bated breath that there were prospects of industries establishing themselves in this country. I doubt, Mr. Speaker, if there will be any more textile industries established here, because I have it on the best authority that the warehouses of the textile industry in Canada are pretty well filled to-day and they have no market in which to sell their goods. I would like someone to tell me what the wages in the textile industry are.

It is said that we have seasonal unemployment in the winter. Of course we have, but we have it to-day on a much larger scale than ever before, despite the fact that hon. gentlemen opposite have spent \$20,000,000, or a proportion of that sum, to help relieve unemployment. Unemployment, hon. gentlemen opposite said during the last election, was so serious that it had become a national

[Mr. C. A. Stewart.]

question, and the late government, they said, was recreant in its duty because they did not recognize it as a national question. Unemployment had reached such proportions, they said, that it had become a national question, and it was the duty of the federal government to go into the field, give leadership and cure this national calamity that had come upon us. What did we say, Mr. Speaker, about unemployment? We said that if any province or municipality was in difficulties, we were prepared to secure at once a governor general's warrant. Hon. gentlemen opposite had said that there were people starving in the country. The leader of the government himself told us that he had discovered a lady with a child in this condition; his heart bled for the penury in which he found them, and he was going to cure that situation at once. I want the house to remember that: He was going to cure that unemployment situation at once, because his heart bled for the poverty and distress that he saw throughout the land. It was a national question that demanded immediate attention. The Liberal party offered, if such were the actual situation, to get a governor general's warrant, and we could have got such a warrant had we been returned to power, and in that way have given immediate relief. But we did not have the opportunity of doing so; the public thought otherwise. Our policy had been to have a three-way contribution, one-third from the federal government, one-third from the municipality, and one-third from the province. But this government was going to see that there would be no delay. Unemployment had become a national problem and relief was to be furnished at once. So we had the special session and voted the money. This government came into office on the 7th of August last, and before they were ready to distribute relief, it was well on into November. In the meantime what about that woman and child who were in want? What about those starving people that my right hon. friend saw all through this country? What happened to them during the interval? According to a statement made by the Minister of Labour (Senator Robertson), when this government had allocated \$11,000,000 for unemployment relief, the provinces and the municipalities spent over \$63,000,000; that is, the federal government contributed in the proportion of one to six. That was the extent to which unemployment was taken care of by this government. That is the basis upon which they have been administering unemployment relief. It is the old story of Tory administra-