

From one end of the country to the other pledges abound: the ceasing of unemployment, the lowering of the cost of living, work for everybody, high wages, etc., etc. Briefly, it was the golden age returning to earth, and we were told: Elect Mr. Bennett; elect the leader of the Conservative opposition and you will have in this country all that you desire. Everybody will have work, and factories will open their doors again. Well, for eight months the Canadian people have been waiting and what is the result? The people have been waiting eight months without hearing the roar of the guns, without any blasting of foreign markets. The people have waited eight months without seeing the promised millennium; instead what is happening? Let us examine the balance sheet of the Conservative party since they are in power and compare it with that of the Liberal regime. I quote from an extract of *L'Avenir du Nord*:

Under the Conservatives, the unemployment crisis which they were to relieve immediately on assuming power, is more acute than under the Liberal regime.

Under the Conservative rule that national unity, that harmony between all the provinces brought about by the Liberals, threaten to be inevitably torn asunder.

And if we had many speeches like the one delivered yesterday, in the house, by the member for Regina, I would have to unfortunately admit that the harmony between the various provinces would not last long.

Under the Conservatives, Canada's trade is collapsing, under the Liberals it had reached the highest summit of our history.

Canada lost the fifth rank among the exporting countries, to make way for India. Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Under the Conservatives, the cost of living increases, under the Liberals, it was decreasing.

Under the Conservatives, the taxes increase; under the Liberals they were decreasing.

An hon. MEMBER (Translation): They are rapidly climbing.

Mr. BRASSET (Translation): Yes, unfortunately they are climbing and rapidly.

Under the Conservatives, expenditures exceed the revenues; under the Liberals we had surpluses.

Under the Conservatives, the national debt is increasing; under the Liberals, it was decreasing.

Under the Conservatives, the revenues of the country are decreasing; under the Liberals, they were on the increase.

These are the Conservative balance-sheets and the balance-sheets of the Liberal administration. The Conservatives proclaim everywhere that the Prime Minister has redeemed his pledges. The people of Canada

would be easily pleased if they were satisfied with the deeds of this government.

Mr. Speaker, the unemployment question has been broached, it is very much in evidence, and what I would have to say would not alter the situation. However, in listening to the speakers who preceded me these last days, I thought that the government's endeavours to relieve unemployment did not produce the result which the Conservatives themselves expected. The then leader of the opposition, the Prime Minister of to-day, had solemnly pledged his word—that everybody heard, members on the right as well as those on the left—not to try to merely relieve unemployment, but to completely eradicate it. What result has the Prime Minister had since his advent to power. Is there less unemployment? Has unemployment ceased? I shall state that not only it has not ceased, but that it has spread more than ever. The calls for help which reach members from all parts of Canada are a sufficient answer.

It is often queried, sir, how the government would fare should elections take place now. We wonder what would be the verdict of the people if after eight months in power our friends on your right, sir, were to face another general election. The almost unanimous views expressed by the people of Canada, is that were we to have elections to-day the Conservative party would be swept from power. What the Canadian people expected, so as to relieve unemployment, is not a few million dollars given out as charity. The Canadian people have more pride than that. It is not charity we expected, we had hoped, on the present Prime Minister assuming power, that a constructive policy would give work to the people; and not doles. And this charity of \$20,000,000 how was it given? It was given with the disdainful gesture of the wealthy man who drops a few cents to the beggar on the street in order to get rid of him. Poor municipalities were forced to bleed themselves white in order to contribute their share and thus assure a few days of work to the unemployed. What happened in my own riding? The unemployed worked eight, ten, fifteen days, and now they are poorer than ever.

It unfortunately happened, in my county, that many poor parishes and municipalities were forced to borrow in order to meet the requirements of the government and thereby help the latter to relieve the distress existing. These municipalities were already relieving much distress and in no way did they need to be forced by the government to help their poor, which they had begun to do long before the government had their measure of \$20,000,000 voted.