

in ordinary times get work in the building trades. But at the present time, with stock market prices going down every day, as we see by the papers, and I am surprised that they are not at zero already because for a couple of years stock market prices have been going down, people are very cautious about spending money for building houses or barns, preferring to wait until better times come. In fact, Mr. Chairman, people in the country who had saved money for the purpose of enlarging their house or building a barn or making improvements of one kind or another, or building a house for the son who had just got married, say: We will spend that money for building when the crisis is over. In the meantime these carpenters, masons and other artisans are without a job. They are amongst the unemployed, and the trouble is that people in the country who have no work to do flock into the large cities in order to find work. They say: We will go to Montreal or Toronto or Winnipeg or Vancouver, where there is more work being done. In addition, the style in construction has changed. Lumber used to be used very much in the construction of buildings. But now buildings are largely made of cement and steel, or brick and stone, and we do not see wooden buildings being put up in the cities nowadays. They are constructed in the rural districts, and as I said, the people in the rural districts are very much afraid of starting to build at the present time. The consequence is that many men formerly employed in the building trades are now out of work in the large cities.

The Prime Minister mentioned one day that he trusted very much to private charity to help the unemployed. Private charity is a wonderful thing. Sometimes people with very small means are very, very generous in proportion to their means. They do like St. Martin, cut their coat in two in order to clothe a poor man with one-half of it. The unemployed who pass through the small towns and villages in the country are always sure of getting food and shelter at the hands of private charity. That is admirable, and these people, in addition to supporting their compatriots, have to support other people who have been brought into this country from central Europe by the two big railway systems, the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National, and every member of the house will testify that that is being done in every constituency of this country from Halifax to Vancouver. But, Mr. Chairman, if we want private charity to continue to help the unemployed, the farmers must make a little

more money, and that is why I ask the Minister of Labour, with his colleagues the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of National Revenue, to see that the tariff is adjusted in order that the farmers may obtain better prices for their products.

To sum up, Mr. Chairman, I come back to where I started. May I say where I stand in regard to the back to the farm scheme. Theoretically I am in favour of it, but first of all the governments, federal and provincial, should stand together to protect the farmers, to encourage them and induce them to stay where they are now. Then in the case of those who are brought back to the land, see to it that they are not isolated but are put amongst a community, which is essential to the welfare of these settlers themselves and of the country at large.

I am not going to repeat what I suggested the other day when I asked the minister to be kind enough to have an inventory or classification made of the employed in this country, with the story of each one. I would ask him if he will do that. I believe that is a fair question, and I am sure that the minister will give me a fair answer.

Mr. LUCHKOVICH: I thought I had a few very valuable remarks to offer to the committee but in view of the fact that the front benchers have taken up most of the time I am not going to deliver the speech I originally intended. Instead I will devote a few minutes to some of the remarks that have been made by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre and the hon. member for Mackenzie.

It appears that the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Kennedy) said something in reference to those immigrants who unfortunately were not born in the country whence most of the residents of Canada have sprung. I hate quoting, Mr. Chairman, but I have before me an article which is very relative to the matter brought up by the two hon. gentlemen. It reads as follows:

Foreign-Born Fraternity

Tragic figures in the streets of Ottawa, as in other Canadian cities, are the destitute men of foreign birth. They seem to get the least consideration in periods of unemployment. Man's inhumanity to man is to be seen particularly in the stirring up of racial animosities against the foreign-born when the fear of starvation is abroad in the land.

It would hardly be surprising to find communism spreading through this destitute army of unemployed, but actually the labourers from foreign lands are no more class-conscious than are the native sons. They have an extraordinary capacity to suffer in silence. They do so suffer privation with dumb patience.