

And be it further resolved, that, in the conduct of such investigation, attention be given to the possibility of making available, to those of our youth, who are adapted for such training and who would otherwise be denied it, technical training in various branches;

And be it further resolved, that, in the conduct of such investigation, consideration should be given to the feasibility of setting up and maintaining a National Youth Reestablishment Commission.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I rise for this the first time to speak in this house with considerable trepidation. I am not insensible of the extent and depth of the tradition that is bounded by these four walls. I think of those who have spoken here these many years past and of those who speak here now. I am here as a new member; I have come here—and I say it proudly—with a sense of humility, a sense of privilege—the privilege of association; the privilege of opportunity; and the privilege of responsibility. I have been sent here—and I am fully conscious of it—by upwards of seventy thousand splendid Canadian people who are dependent upon industrial activity for their livelihood. I have been sent here to represent them, and when I speak in this house I speak not as a private member only but as the representative of those people. During the course of my campaign I made a promise. I believe, sir, that promises are rather dangerous things during elections. But I made one promise, and that promise was to do my best.

As I have said, I honour and respect the traditions of this house; I respect its dignity, its decorum, and the purposes for which we are gathered here. So as I speak I am filled with a sense of privileged obligation and traditionalistic responsibility not only to those who sent me here but to my fellow members of this house, to my country, to the empire, and to my king.

To identify myself, Mr. Speaker, may I say that I am a Conservative, and proud of the fact. I am proud of my party, its principles and its accomplishments. I have an intense loyalty to party, yes, but I feel that, in the words of him whom I honour as my leader, "a party is an instrument to effect a purpose," and this purpose is to advance the best and fullest interests of the Dominion of Canada.

The motion which it is my rare privilege to bring to the attention of hon. members is, I feel, vitally important to our national life. As I introduce it I am not under any misapprehension as to the magnitude of its scope. I realize that it must be treated as a national subject in the deepest and broadest

sense. I feel that it is the duty of this parliament particularly, if I may say so, to bend our united efforts, of course with loyalty to party ideals and principles, to the common cause, the national welfare. We have been sent here for that purpose and to that purpose we must adhere.

This motion relates to a national matter that concerns the very life-blood of Canada. We face a most serious national problem. That sounds platitudinous. One who rises to speak in such days as we have passed through in this world in the past seven years almost feels it incumbent upon him to use such language. But when I say that we face a most serious problem, this is no platitude. It is not necessary for me and it is not my purpose to expatiate at length upon the burning question of unemployment occasioned by the economic world war of the last seven years. It is with a single feature, and a singularly important feature of it, that this motion deals; that is the problem of youth. I have been privileged in my contacts during the last eleven years, in that I have had very extensive contacts with the youth of one city of this province, particularly, and perhaps in a lesser way with the youth of Ontario as a whole. I have come into contact with scores of young men who have been good enough to come to me with their difficulties and problems. I have counselled them in their difficulties and disappointments. So I speak here to-night with some definite and practical knowledge of the subject with which I deal.

Prior to 1929 it seems to me that we did not pay much attention to the youth of Canada. It is true that in 1919 we passed a Technical Education Act, the purport of which was "to aid in promoting industry and the mechanical trades and to increase the earning capacity, efficiency and productive power of those employed therein." The need for such aid was expressed in the terms of reference of the royal commission which had previously reported to parliament, as follows:

Industrial efficiency is all important to the development of the dominion and to the promotion of the home and foreign trade of Canada in competition with other nations.

From 1929 to 1936 the world has passed through very difficult days, days of diminished salaries, lowered wages, apprenticeships discontinued, days of lost opportunities. The abuses of the system under which we carry on in this western so-called civilization have become very apparent and have been brought under the microscope. We found that we had made many mistakes and had permitted many mistakes to be made. The