

are facts well known to every elector in my constituency, and they are unimportant compared with the charges made against the late administration by the employees of the Canadian National Railways.

When our opponents say that we have done nothing to relieve unemployment and to assist the farmers and fishermen, how can they shut their eyes to the splendid trade agreements negotiated by this government; to the National Housing Act; to the Municipal Improvements Assistance Act, and to the home improvement plan under which loans at the lowest rate of interest in history are made to municipalities, organizations and individuals in order to encourage employment? How can they shut their eyes to the abolition of the sales tax on all building materials, including paint and heating and plumbing, in order to encourage the building trades; to the assumption of provincial and municipal taxes on the properties so constructed; to the abolition of the obnoxious excise tax imposed by the previous government; to the encouraging of public works by assisting the provinces with federal aid; to the assistance given the unemployed by a most liberal expansion of public works; to the program of settling unemployed young men on farms in provinces adopting this plan; to the amendment to the War Veterans' Assistance Act; to the employing of young men in forestry conservation work; to the courses given to young men in the arts of curing fish, scientific farming, carpentry and other trades; to the supplying of seed grain to farmers and to the opening of world markets for the sale of farm products; to the loans given without interest to fishermen to enable them to buy nets as well as food for their children; to the reimbursement of the fishermen for losses due to storms; to the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance Act, and to the appointment of fishermen's assistance boards which, among other accomplishments, erected a great many up-to-date buildings—at least six in my constituency—at fishing centres in which buildings the fishermen may cure and save their products, and the construction of which provided employment for the fishermen? The electors of Canada, Mr. Speaker, know all these things, even if some members of this house choose to shut their eyes to them.

The leader of the opposition stated that the present government, or perhaps he said Canada, had done less in the way of social legislation than any other country in the world. But let me point out that except for two or three years the Tories have had a majority in the senate for the last twenty years or more, and that when Liberal governments tried to pass social legislation, a Tory senate invariably threw it out. The old age

pensions legislation is an example. The bill passed this house but could not survive in the senate until the Liberals at last had a majority in that chamber. And the irony of it was that the Tories, after voting against the old age pensions scheme and defeating it in the senate, once it had been enacted despite their opposition brazenly adopted it as part of their 1930 platform, and boldly promised to pay the pensions one hundred per cent from the federal treasury. I think every elector of pensionable age received from the Tory organization a circular letter containing this promise. The official opposition should be ashamed to mention social legislation in this house or anywhere else in Canada. They did reluctantly, when in power, pay seventy-five per cent of the old age pensions because the Quebec government forced them to do so. It was not because of their pre-election promise.

Let me at this point give a brief summary of the promises made by the Tory party to the rural mail couriers of Canada before the 1930 election. It was well known that the rural mail couriers had been organizing for some years; that almost every mail courier had joined the organization and paid the membership fee, and that they were all naturally anxious for a change from the tender system to employment under the civil service of Canada, with a guaranteed living wage and permanency of employment. The then leader of the Tory party, mad for power, resorted to the lowest kind of deception in this instance. Letters were sent out to each and every mail courier in Canada promising to comply with the wishes of the couriers' organization, immediately upon the party's being returned to power. Imagine the influence on these poorly paid mail contractors! They honeycomb Canada from one end to the other, and come in daily contact with all classes of people in the rural sections. They have numerous friends; of necessity they are educated, upright, honest and intelligent, and until 1930 they were unsuspecting. Whatever the Liberal party has done or has not as yet been able to do, we have not attempted to deceive the mail couriers. The Tories deceived them and got their votes and support in 1930. But as a class the couriers have good memories, and they now feel that if their grievances are to be settled this will be done by a Liberal government. I should like to hear some one of our Conservative friends opposite, especially one of the 1930 survivors, discussing this question of the mail couriers.

Some of our opponents have said that the dictators are showing the democracies how to end unemployment; that there is no unemployment in countries ruled over by dictators. Well, Mr. Speaker, if the United States, for