

hampered by strikes and labour disorders and disagreements. In a resourceful country like Canada, where we are capable of consuming only one-fifth of what we are capable of producing, and with the countries of Europe in the condition in which they are today, there should be no such thing as the lowering of production with the resultant unemployment conditions that obtain.

Production and employment are, I believe, the elixirs of the life of a nation, and if we are to bring about peace and prosperity in this country these are the two factors which we must consider as essential. On the other hand, there is no use in asking the primary producer or the industrialist to increase production if the facilities which warrant that production are not afforded. Let us take a few of our primary producers. Take the fisherman, for instance. He is an important element of our producing population, and it is no use asking him to increase his production if he has not an entrance to his harbour; if he has not adequate wharfage room in order to land and process his fish. If he has to leave his boat out to the mercy of the winds and waves; if he has not proper shelter for his boats; if he has not some centre of refrigeration where he can feel secure that he has bait in order to carry on his operations, he cannot produce.

In the constituency where I live and where fishing is carried on to a comparatively high degree, I know of instances, at the time when fish are schooling—I am speaking of shore fishing—when for want of bait the fishermen's production is nil. They should have the facilities. Another thing that should be afforded at certain points along the fishing coast is life-boats, so that the fishermen would have security when they are out and are caught in a storm, in order that they may have a chance to save their lives. I know what happens along that shore. Men who have only comparatively small boats are afraid to go out any distance, but they would certainly undertake to go and increase production greatly if they had that security.

So much for the fishermen. I would say that in the same way every stimulus should be given to the farmer. He must be given every opportunity and every inducement not only to remain on his farm but to increase his production. I agree with what the hon. member for Cape Breton South said with regard to the marshlands. I think it was he who referred to them. I believe that this is something which should receive the attention of the Department of Agriculture this year. I am not finding any fault with the assistance which is given to the prairie farmers; in fact,

[Mr. McGarry.]

if I were going to make any comment, I would say that it should be increased. I believe that the Prairie Farm Assistance Act should be extended so as to deal with the whole of the Dominion of Canada.

Not only do I refer to the marshlands, but we have another menacing agency bringing about destruction of our lands along our river shores. Right in the community where I live, the farmers who have intervale land are every year losing acres and acres of it through erosion and ice floes. I think I would be safe in saying that there are some farmers who had twenty acres of intervale land when I went there twenty-five years ago but who, I believe, have not half that amount left today. I know for a fact that the farmers along these rivers have done everything they could to protect their land, but so much damage has been done and so many inroads have been made on the land that today it is impossible for the individual farmer to cope with the problem. When this act is extended, which I hope will be this year, circumstances like this should be taken into account.

As far as the lumber industry is concerned, I believe I can say that in Nova Scotia our production is greater than the demand. I agree with the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Isnor), who suggested the other day that it would be to the advantage of the lumbermen of Nova Scotia if the export quota were increased.

I now come to the mining industry. That is one of our greatest problems in the maritimes. In a country with a climate like that of Canada, everyone will realize that the production of coal is essential. We all know what happens in countries where shortages of coal obtain, as in England. We found that the coal industry there was almost paralyzed. We found that lighting had to be rationed and, what was more deplorable, that there were a great many cold children and people living in those areas.

I understand that most of our coal reserves are in Alberta. We have coal in the maritimes and in British Columbia, but in those areas the mining of coal is difficult and costly. Another drawback with respect to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick coal is that we are so far removed from our natural markets. This makes transportation an important part of the operation. It is therefore no wonder that the coal problem, particularly in the maritime provinces, has been one of our greatest political and economic troubles.

We have the problem of supplying coal for our home needs and of maintaining a market. The problem is that we must endeavour to maintain not only a supply for our own needs, but a lasting and profitable market in the only