

Unemployment

the department operates, no wonder that even private enterprise in Canada, most certainly desirous of keeping their plants operating and most certainly desirous of building up export trade, do not know where they stand, do not know what to do. So they throw up their hands and let it go, a situation which naturally leads not only to the part-time operation of plants but, of necessity, to unemployment.

On the shipbuilding end we were told by the Minister of Trade and Commerce that we are in line with Great Britain. I cannot see it. Just the other day in our Canadian newspapers I read that Sir Wingfield Digby, civil lord of the admiralty, said that British shipyards are free to accept orders from the U.S.S.R. and other eastern European countries. My main point is the confusion. I have quoted only from statements of the minister and the senior member for Halifax and from actual copies which I had made from the originals, which were sent out within a matter of only a few short weeks, as to what had to be done by a company that wanted to try to get into the export field.

I also made mention of the fact that there is a great deal of unnecessary unemployment in Canada because the government has not shown initiative in having manufacturing done with our own raw materials. I was most interested in the statement made the other day with regard to the threat by the United States to curtail the import of crude oil from Canada. If it were not tragic, Mr. Speaker, it would be humorous. Here we have members of this group rising day after day, week after week and month after month, when it is a matter of dealing with a problem of the agricultural producers of this country, when the United States are taking action in the field of agricultural products by stopping imports of our products into the United States, and all we get are a great many platitudes and sanctimonious statements from the Minister of Trade and Commerce. But lo and behold, when there is talk in the United States of some action being taken to curtail the importation of our crude oil, the government and the Conservatives are up on their feet screaming their heads off to high heaven about it. We wonder why. Of course we want to export but, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Trade and Commerce made the statement from his place in the house last year that Canada had exported \$7 million worth of oil and refined oil products to the United States, and we had imported \$130 million worth from the United States.

We now have a 30-inch oil pipe line, the Trans Mountain, going into the municipality

of Burnaby right next to Vancouver. Because of that pipe line oil companies—yes, private enterprise companies—poured millions of dollars into new refineries and additions to existing refineries. What happened? From that 30-inch pipe line a 20-inch pipe line was run to Ferndale, Washington. We want to export all we can export, but is there not something wrong when the Liberals and Conservatives scream to high heaven about any talk of a stoppage of the flow of our crude oil to the United States, and at the same time say that we are importing \$130 million of refined oil products into Canada and only exporting \$7 million worth? We have the ability to do the refining in our own country, employing our own industry and our own men and women. We should give more thought to getting more advantage out of our own black gold instead of spending our money on United States oil.

What is true of that raw material is also true of many others. With my knowledge of the resources of Canada and the abilities, capabilities and potentialities of the people of the dominion, I am convinced that if we had a government with any initiative, any vision—yes, any principle of Canada and Canadians first, Canadian employment first and the utilization of Canada's resources in this country—we would not have the number of unemployed we have at the present time. I say that the records of Liberal and Conservative governments have proven the absolute inability of their system to function except in time of war. They have proven their incapacity to govern. They have no vision and no plans.

We cannot expect that the government, even if they are awakened, are going to be very speedy in making long-term plans. Certainly they should have an answer to the request that they proceed now to lay down immediate plans to make certain that no person goes hungry or in want in our country until such time as they can put plans into operation to enable free enterprise to give employment to everyone desiring, able and willing to work.

I think it is an absolute disgrace that we have a Prime Minister, a cabinet and followers of the government who are prepared to move on an hour's notice if men are prepared to die for Canada but are not prepared to take action when there is unemployment in our land. I say they will prove themselves to be a government when they lay down policies and take action to take care of the men and women of this dominion who want to be self-respecting residents of their communities, who want to be true citizens of this country and live for the Dominion of Canada.