

only in Canada, but in the world at large. I think that the gentlemen who drew up this manifesto, some of whom have had excellent opportunities to study economic conditions and to know the histories of various nations, have put their finger upon the sore spot in our present civilization. To continue reading:

We are convinced that these evils are inherent in any system in which private profit is the main stimulus to economic effort.

That of course is an opinion, and I admit any man is free to deny that interpretation of the situation. Then comes the last sentence:

We therefore look to the establishment in Canada of a new social order which will substitute a planned and socialized economy for the existing chaotic individualism and which, by achieving an approximate economic equality among all men in place of the present glaring inequalities, will eliminate the domination of one class by another.

Then there follow some of the steps which, it is considered, will help towards the realization of the ideals above set forth.

I pause for a moment, Mr. Speaker, if possible to get a little better hearing. I know that this subject is not considered to be of vital interest by a great many men in the house, although I venture to say that within the next twelve months a great many more hon. members, as well as people outside the house, will be giving more careful consideration to the fundamental ideas outlined in the statement I have just been reading.

The Prime Minister spoke of some industries that exist in Canada to-day. Unfortunately in a speech lasting over two hours he said nothing whatever about the greatest industry we have, that is the care of the unemployed of Canada, which far transcends any other industry in this country, for we are told we have some 500,000 unemployed. If that estimate is at all nearly correct, it means that their care, together with that of their families, is the biggest responsibility that lies upon this country at the present time. The Prime Minister was very careful to go into details of the way in which he had, as he thought, established the credit of Canada, but he did not go into details as to how our destitute people were going to be saved from the dreadful situation in which a great many find themselves to-day. An editorial in the *Winnipeg Free Press* of April 25, contains this passage:

Winnipeg's biggest individual industry—in numbers of persons on its rolls, in amount of money expended on its upkeep, and in its general effect on the rest of the city—is undoubtedly the business of unemployment relief.

[Mr. Woodsworth.]

The article goes on to state that from January 1 to April 6 the total administration costs for the married men's section, the single men's department, and the women's section was \$39,484.97—nearly \$40,000 for administration alone in the past three months. No municipality can very long carry a burden of that kind. In addition to that, on April 20 there were 1,147 men laid off from the Transcona and Fort Rouge shops. We in Winnipeg are at our wits end to know what to do with these great masses of unemployed men. The situation in Winnipeg is more or less typical of almost every section of the country. Yesterday I had people in to see me from Hamilton and Stratford. In this morning's *Citizen* I noticed an editorial entitled *Work for Destitute Women*, from which I quote two or three sentences:

. . . Relief of destitute women in Ottawa has been carried on during recent weeks by the Local Council of Women. . . . Work has been provided for about six hundred women week by week. . . . There are at present no prospects that more work will be given out to Ottawa's needy women next Tuesday. They received none yesterday. They are desperately asking themselves what can be done. . . . This Christian community can hardly face with equanimity the sight of women walking the streets, hungry and without means of existence. There is surely something more to be done. But, with no constructive lead from those in authority to provide the workless and poverty-stricken in this land of stored granaries with even a bare existence, it remains with the public to see that at least their women are protected.

It is an appalling thing that here in the capital there are six hundred women absolutely without proper sustenance.

I wish I had the time to answer some of the arguments put forward by the Prime Minister. He went to a great deal of pains to justify his position with regard to the so-called favourable balance of trade. I believe that the Minister of Finance stated that that stood for the year at \$25,000,000. Neither he nor the Prime Minister has since pointed out that the March returns show an adverse balance of \$17,000,000, which would seem to cut off the greater part of the so-called favourable balance that had been laboriously built up during the preceding year. I do not think there is a great deal in the trade balance in any case. Again the Prime Minister, while he carefully analysed the relationships between our trade and that of Great Britain, pointing out invisible items, did not analyse the trade situation existing between the United States and this country in which there are also some very important invisible items.