

and are in earnest we can certainly make progress. All this idle talk about dumping amounts to nothing, it is just an argument to uphold prohibitive protection and have our Canadian people endure further sacrifices.

Secondly, I dealt in a brief way with the question brought before the house by the hon. member for Stanstead, that is the transportation of great masses of unemployed from the industrial centres to the hinterland of this dominion. I said that problem is not as easy as it looks, that it is a continuous, never-ending problem, not simply a problem of cheap transportation. I want to follow up the observations made by the hon. member for Stanstead and bring before the committee a problem pertaining to the constituency of North Battleford.

Before doing that may I just say a word on a point of view presented to the committee by the Prime Minister. I got the idea from his remarks that he thinks that because we are living in the machine age we have got to bow down before this problem of unemployment and accept it. I differ entirely from that conception of national life. I say that unemployment is something that we can overcome if we take the initiative and adopt rational trade and financial policies in Canada. I would not say that we must put an embargo on inventive genius, on initiative; briefly, that we must fight the machine. We have got to cooperate with the machine. We are living in a machine age, and unless our financial and trade policies go hand in hand with machine production we are not going to get very far. Our trade and financial policies will have to be progressive, they will have to be sound, they will have to be advanced. If we initiate policies of that kind, I believe that our problem of unemployment will gradually and surely disappear.

My last remarks will deal with a problem pertaining to one of the new and developing parts of the Canadian northwest. That problem is in reality a railway problem. I have brought it before the house on former occasions and will bring it before the house again and again until it is solved. May I say I have listened to this debate and I have heard hon. members say that we ought to have a policy of reforestation. That is all right, we need that. There is nothing wrong with reforestation activities, whether in the form of relief or of an ordinary government undertaking. Then it is said that we must have highways, we must have an all-Canadian highway from ocean to ocean to open up Canada. I have no fault to find

with that policy, and I have no great fault to find with the government for the support it has given to a national highway during the last four dismal years. We have also had statements made with regard to a new public works program. I understand that program will be brought down later. Further we have had put before us the relief work that is going on in our national parks under the Department of National Defence and the Department of the Interior. And we have had the question of land settlement and the development of natural resources, the seeking for oil and gas and gold and the building of our national prosperity.

May I say, Mr. Chairman, that the problem with which I should like to deal for a few moments is associated with the problem mentioned by the hon. member for Stanstead. After we get the people on the land; after we place them on the soil in undeveloped areas where there are no railway facilities, then another problem arises. That problem is to give railway accommodation to those settlers on the land, many of whom are on relief. In the area to which I want to refer for a moment we have a population of approximately ten thousand people located in the upper end of northwestern Saskatchewan, approximately one hundred miles northwest of North Battleford, on the way to Edmonton, and northwest to the Pacific ocean. This population is confined largely to townships 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62 and to ranges 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26. Some statistical information was gathered and forwarded to me with regard to that area. In it there are 96,320 poultry, 3,302 horses, 7,666 cattle, 5,145 swine, a population ranging from eight thousand to ten thousand, 19,360 acres of land under cultivation and 382,500 acres available for cultivation. In 1931 there were 345 settlers who went into that district; in 1932 there were 134 and in 1933 between 50 and 100. Some of these settlers are on relief, but they are out there on the land to grapple for themselves with the problem of making a living. In my opinion, in order to enable these settlers to get off relief, it would be a very wise move on the part of the government to take a forward step and provide them with the railway accommodation they need so badly.

May I say to the Prime Minister that in this area we have seventy miles of right of way graded ready for the steel. Surely it would not take very much money to put steel on this seventy miles of grading in order to help these people who are doing their best