

in the direction of stimulating the rehabilitation of the unemployed in spheres of permanent industrial activity. It is my Ministers' sincere hope that the present improvement in industrial and economic conditions will continue in an increasing measure and thus facilitate the absorption of the unemployed under normal trade conditions.

Although some of the Dominion's manufacturing industries have in recent years been able to show a gratifying progress, and although there now exist very definite indications of an improvement, it is unfortunately a fact that many industrial workers have been suffering from loss of employment. In this connection my Minister of Industries and Commerce has associated with him, in a Development of Industries Committee, representatives of several Departments competent to assist in the work of reviewing proposals for industrial projects which involve State assistance in some form, including financial help from the funds of the Unemployment Board.

In order to meet the needs of prospective settlers and to alleviate the unemployment position, my Ministers have given close attention to the requirements of land-settlement, and steady progress has been made with the programme of land-development not only on areas intended for settlement under the Land Act, but also on land being made available for selection by suitable unemployed men under the Small Farms (Relief of Unemployment) Act, 1932-33.

During their discussions with His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, my Prime Minister and my Minister of Finance made careful investigation into the matters of industrial organization, housing policies, health insurance, and pension schemes; while, in New Zealand, committees set up by my Ministers have been making inquiries into the several aspects of national superannuation, health insurance, housing, labour conditions, and the rehabilitation of urban mortgagors. My Ministers have under consideration legislation dealing with these subjects.

My Ministers propose to consider an extension of useful public works, for which the time is appropriate, and the necessary loan-moneys are now obtainable at low rates of interest.

It is pleasing to be able to state that the Dominion has been free from industrial disturbances of a serious nature. Minor stoppages of work which occurred in one or two cases were quickly adjusted.

The toll of fatalities and accidents on roads, which has notably increased in New Zealand during recent months, is causing my Advisers real concern. With a view to remedying the position, proposals have been adopted for the progressive elimination of level railway-crossings; and amendments to the Motor-vehicles Act, 1924, will be introduced for the purpose of improving the traffic laws.

My Ministers also propose to lay before you legislative proposals designed to safeguard the use of electrical appliances, and to make better provision for controlling the sale of stock-foods, a measure relating to colonial light dues, and amendments to the law relating to the dairy industry, land and income tax, coal-mines, mining, public works, Electric-power Boards, health, war pensions, and other subjects.

I earnestly pray that your consideration of these matters may be guided by Divine Providence, and that your deliberations may promote the well-being of the people of New Zealand.