

provides for a seventy year limit, but for many years they have had a contributory plan through which, having made contributions, about 18,000,000 Britishers are eligible to draw old age pensions.

May I take this opportunity to register my support of the principle of the resolution. I am glad I have had the opportunity to congratulate the Minister of Finance upon the first-class presentation he made.

Mr. J. A. MARSHALL (Camrose): Mr Speaker, when the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Bradette) was speaking, I had a feeling that the discussion would resolve itself into a debate on social credit. This feeling was further accentuated when the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning) took up a great deal of his time in speaking on this particular subject. I say to the minister that I have the authority of the Social Credit group to accept the challenge he has thrown out to us to discuss fully the principles of social credit. I sincerely hope that he will make an opening for us so that, before the present session of parliament closes, we may be afforded an opportunity of discussing in full this very important matter. I can assure him that we shall welcome that opportunity.

Mr. DUNNING: Perhaps the hon. member would permit me to say that I cannot prevent hon. members from discussing it on any one of several occasions which present themselves automatically under the rules of the house, as the business of the house progresses. When I say that I welcome an opportunity, I am not conferring a favour; I cannot confer that favour. The rules of the house afford the opportunity, and I would welcome hon. members taking advantage of it. I am not in a position either to give or to withhold that favour, and I should not like hon. members to feel under any obligation to me.

Mr. MARSHALL: It was my understanding that the Minister of Finance said he would be prepared to enter into a full dress discussion of social credit. Possibly I misunderstood his meaning.

Mr. DUNNING: I think you did.

Mr. MARSHALL: Then I regret I made that mistake. Without wanting to become obnoxious, let me assure him that on all occasions we shall endeavour to bring before the house what we believe to be the only solution to the economic ills which confront this country.

There are just two points in the address of the Minister of Finance which I should like to touch upon very briefly. I am not

[Mr. MacNicol.]

prepared to enter into a full discussion of the matters he dealt with as they are too broad in scope. I believe I am right in saying that the minister was very careful to avoid admitting that there exists among those who are over the age of sixty years a condition which should be remedied. The next point is that, if we assume that premise to be correct, the financial condition of the country will not permit a scheme of this kind to be carried out. To me that is a definite admission that it cannot be done under the present economic set-up. I know that what I have to say matters little to the members of the house, but what was said this evening mattered a great deal to those of us who sit here as members of the Social Credit group. Repeatedly we have brought to the attention of the house the submission that this government should take control of currency and credit and use it in terms of public need. This afternoon we had the admission from the Minister of Finance that he as Minister of Finance of the country has control of currency and credit.

Mr. DUNNING: No. I know my hon. friend does not want to put words into my mouth. I did not say that.

Mr. MARSHALL: That is what I took it to mean.

Mr. DUNNING: If my hon. friend will read Hansard in the morning I am sure he will not get any such impression.

Mr. MARSHALL: I shall be glad to leave it until we get Hansard in the morning.

Mr. DUNNING: I said that this parliament had created the instruments to control the credit and currency of this country. I did not say that I controlled it, although I suppose I am one of the instruments.

Mr. MARSHALL: Which is an admission that the Minister of Finance on behalf of this government controls currency and credit.

Mr. DUNNING: No; I did not say that either. I wish my hon. friend would not persist in misrepresenting me.

Mr. MARSHALL: I do not think anyone in the house can question the fact that the care and protection of the people of this country is a most important thing at this time. The cause of the young people has been constantly championed in the house and this government has made a move to do something for them. A section of the national employment commission which was set up has studied this problem and a solution of some kind has been offered. If we consider that youth has a problem, surely we must