

*Supply—External Affairs*

hope for those 100 families, some reason to live, some prospect for a decent future for themselves and the young people among them. I believe that is not too much for Canada to do. If it worked well I would hope we could expand the program and I would hope that the Canadian people as a whole would support the government in such an endeavour. I believe this program would be worth trying. I do not say that we should go too far too fast, but I do think that on an experimental basis and on the basis of the success of the tubercular refugee program we should now try this further step along that line.

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Chairman, most of what I had to say to the committee has already been dealt with by hon. members, particularly in relation to the situation of this country vis-à-vis the countries of South America, Central America and Mexico. However, I think I can add a few words which can constitute a postscript to what has been said. It is not without significance that in today's *Globe and Mail* there was an interesting news item dealing with the intentions of the government with regard to the inter-American development bank. Also not without significance, I think, is the fact that in tonight's *Ottawa Citizen* there is a news item dealing with a report made by a colleague of the minister, Senator Connolly, who has just returned from South America and has had some very pertinent observations to make in connection with what he discovered there—observations that I am sure will not be lost to the minister.

Most important, however, I want to put before the committee the text of a news item which appears in the *Christian Science Monitor* of Wednesday, November 18. This news item is headed "Lima Parley to Map Continental Body". I would ask permission, Mr. Chairman, just to read a few extracts from this article:

Legislators from at least 15 Latin-American countries will meet here from December 6 to 11 to discuss establishment of a continental assembly on the lines of the European parliament in Brussels...

High on the agenda will be study of the economic and political integration of Latin America and the establishment of a Latin American parliament, similar to the European parliament.

This first meeting of the legislators will attempt to fix the seat, powers, and constitution of the parliament as approved by referendum of the attending countries...

Among the terms of reference of the meeting are:

The recognition of democratic representation and social justice as norms of true continental co-operation;

[Mr. Fleming (Okanagan-Revelstoke).]

A desire to strengthen world peace and progress without hostility or prejudice toward any country or group of countries;

The strengthening of hemispheric unity by means of efficient co-operation leading to the emergence of the Latin-American countries as an integrated and independent force in the solution of world problems.

It is interesting to note that this meeting will be attended by representatives of the organization of American states, which has been mentioned during the course of this debate, the inter-American development bank, the Latin American economic commission, the inter-American economic and social council, the Latin America free trade association, the inter-American regional labour organization, the Central America economic union, the Latin America university union, and the American inter-parliamentarian regional group.

Up until recently I think we have been proceeding with regard to this problem as if time did not matter, believing, with Mr. Micawber, that something was going to turn up. But I think this article indicates that this is no longer the case. Time is of the essence; and I do not think time is on our side, and we will have to act. I realize that successive governments have found it difficult to deal with this matter. Discussions have centered recently around joining the O.A.S. I know there are problems inherent in that and I am not going into them; the minister recognizes them, as do his officials. The alliance for progress is another means of doing something which is going to be of help and benefit to the countries of South America. This is a program initiated by the United States. But having in mind the countries of the southern part of this hemisphere have now gathered together, are apparently determined to do what they can to help themselves, and have come up with programs and suggestions of the kind which I read out, indicates that we cannot delay much longer a decision as to the course we must pursue. It is a case of enlightened self interest. The economic trade, imports and exports of the South American continent, are in the order of \$18 billion to \$19 billion, of which our share, if we deduct the actual imports into this country of Venezuelan oil, is not a very substantial amount.

Over and above that is the extent to which we as a country, by some means not yet clear to us or made clear by the government, can do our share to help these countries to help themselves. I do not know whether the minister or the officials of the department will be represented at this gathering, acting as