

the disabled, the blind, those, people who unfortunately are on mothers' allowances, old age assistance and those who live in the circumstances of poverty which the hon. member described.

I want to say, since I have heard from other hon. members of parliament, that regardless of what party they belong to I am sure they recognize the fact that all is not heaven in this Canada of ours. We would like to make it that way. We have been told in the Bible that heaven is in another place. All we can hope is to do our best to attempt to remove this poverty and give these older citizens of Canada, as well as those other people who have been neglected the better things of life in this country.

Let me say this. Everyone knows there are many of our elder citizens in Canada who deserve much more. Every member in this house knows that the reason you and I are here is that our fathers, mothers, grandfathers and grandmothers wanted us here; this is self-evident. We know perfectly well we want them to have the very best things in life.

The one thing I did not hear my hon. friend speak about a few minutes ago when he made his very fine speech was this. He did not say where the happy medium was. The only thing he said was, they are not at this moment getting enough. He did not say whether they should get \$500 a month, and that is what I would like to know. I have a father and a mother, Mr. Speaker. Some of us have parents living and some of us have not. I have a father and a mother who are now receiving the old age pension. As a matter of fact, I have a mother-in-law and a father-in-law who are on the old pension as well. Anybody in a position such as this would want them to get all the money they possibly can to enjoy this better way of life; to enjoy some of the benefits of this just society that we hear about in Canada.

Som hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Whicher: I should like to know whether the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre suggests that \$500 per month is enough. If the present government gave these people \$500 per month would the hon. member stand up and say that is good enough or would he want \$600? I know these people well enough. If you gave them \$1,000 they would want \$2,000. Where are we going to get the money? I did not have the opportunity to hear my learned friend this afternoon, but I would like to hear a man who has been in these halls for as

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long as the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre tell us where we are going to get this money. I listened very attentively to the last hon. member speak, but he did not give us any indication of where this money would come from. What we have to remember is that there is great poverty, and in too many instances the citizens in Canada who receive the old age pension are living in poverty. There are many younger people who are paying taxes in order that these old age pensioners can receive their pensions.

There is a great amount of work being done in order that people may pay taxes to provide pensions for our grandmothers and grandfathers. I say to you, as small as it may be, we are providing a livelihood for these people in Canada. Where does this money come from? Where is the amount we pay these people equalled? I listened to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre very carefully, and I have done a lot of reading in my life about the socialistic island of England. I should like to know whether people are better off there than they are in this country. I suggest that country gives no more than about the equivalent of \$10 per month to their elderly citizens.

An hon. Member: What about Sweden?

Mr. Whicher: I notice there is some mention about veterans' allowances. What is the comparison between what our veterans get and what veterans get under social security in England? We must remember that there is a sea of socialism in that area. I doubt whether the hon. member brought this to the attention of the house this afternoon, because those veterans in England receive very little in comparison to what our veterans here receive. I say on behalf of the Minister of Veterans' Affairs (Mr. Dubé) that hon. members of the house here tonight should be proud of the way we are treating our veterans here in Canada.

Of course we could do better, Mr. Speaker. Instead of taking 52 per cent from our corporations which we do today, perhaps we should take 75 per cent. Instead of taking 90 per cent from people who are making a lot of money in Canada, let's take 100 per cent. In this way, we could drive them away from Canada, just as we have done in the past. We have done so to a greater extent than any country in the world.

Some hon. members suggest that the country to the south of us is the greatest and the wealthiest country in the world. Let me say