

circumstances:

(a) It would provide permanent help and alleviation to those who need it most and whose difficulties are the most persuasive argument against the necessary restrictions of war;

(b) It would provide this for all, farmers as well as wage earners, and would cut across occupational rivalries;

(c) It would be striking and appealing evidence of a vigorous and forward-looking approach to post-war problems and would be of particular assistance in any period of post-war unemployment.

The group supporting this view would see also a more particular application of the policy to the matters now under consideration, though they agree that children's allowances should not be set out as a part of a wage-control program. It is their view that **against** the background of such a policy it would be possible for the War Labour Board to administer its responsibilities rigorously and act to rectify only gross injustices and inequalities. They believe that with such a policy public opinion would support such administration and that the demands of other groups could also be reduced to such proportions that the continuance of price stabilization would be possible and strongly supported.

They point out, however, that they would not recommend embarking on the very substantial cost of children's allowances unless the Government is thoroughly convinced that it should and can re-affirm its stabilization policy and hold to it rigorously, realizing that it will involve many difficult problems. To institute children's allowances in addition to a policy of "creeping inflation" would clearly overtax the resources of the country.

The other group, and particularly the officers of the Department of Labour, hold strongly the view that while a plan of children's allowances may be a desirable program in itself it has no relation to present control problems. They do not believe

that