

Children's Diseases Research Fund

and a report to parliament so that parliament, having contributed on behalf of the Canadian people \$1 million, will exercise that degree of parliamentary control which is essential in expenditures made by parliament and on behalf of the Canadian people.

I think there is nothing further that I need add. The general acceptance of the principle was made clear by members representing the official opposition and the C.C.F. group when the matter first came before the house. I believe this is a major step forward in achieving that relationship between the Queen and her subjects which represents something mystical and yet real, which was so apparent two days ago at the opening of the St. Lawrence waterway when she represented the people of Canada, and in co-operation with the President of the United States gave an exemplification of co-operation which might well be the hope of other parts of the world. In her person she represents the unity of our nation within the commonwealth, and in the personification of her position through funds such as this she typifies the essence of democracy, which is co-operation for the benefit of all her subjects.

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, it is not of course, normal procedure to put a bill through all stages, as we are doing today with this bill, in such a short period of time before, indeed, we have had an opportunity in advance to study the bill. But, as the Prime Minister has pointed out, the circumstances are not normal. Even in respect of the language of the bill we are impressed by the fact that the circumstances are not normal. Not only are they abnormal; they are very happy indeed, and are circumstances which make it desirable to put this bill through the house in one day so it can be passed by the time the Queen reaches her capital tomorrow.

The objective of the bill, Mr. Speaker, is one which will appeal, I am sure, to all Canadians, designed as it is to facilitate research into children's diseases; and we are sure that objective will be aided by this particular act. We know the need. We know also there is great need of research in other related fields, such as heart disease and cancer. This particular bill will make a contribution to this need. I am glad the Prime Minister and the government have seen fit to include in the bill a provision by which individuals may make contributions to the fund. It will associate individuals with the government in pursuit of a worthy objective.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded that in the celebration of King George V's jubilee some years ago a fund was set up for cancer research to which contributions came from

individual Canadians to an amount, I think, of something over half a million dollars. It was a fund which did much at that time to facilitate research into this dread disease, as also I am sure this fund will do at this time. I recall that that particular fund was put under the trusteeship of the prime minister, the chief justice, and I think also the leader of the opposition, and I believe it was an effectively administered fund, as I know this will be. I would merely express the hope that the Department of National Health and Welfare may be closely associated with the administration of this particular fund.

So, Mr. Speaker, we on this side give our warm and hearty support to this legislation. We know that as a result the children who have been welcoming Her Majesty the Queen with such unrestrained enthusiasm and who have shown no trace of indifference to her visit will in the future, because of the passing of this legislation, have even greater cause to welcome that visit.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of this group to express our complete support for this humanitarian measure, and I am sure this measure, as the leader of the official opposition has said, will receive the support of the whole nation.

This bill to provide a gift of \$1 million to Her Majesty will form the foundation of a fund which will grow as the years go by to establish and carry on research into the diseases of children.

Mr. Speaker, Her Majesty is the symbol of the past, present and future of the commonwealth and all it stands for. This gift, this fund, will provide for research to remedy some of our neglect in the past; it will provide the financial resources so badly needed in the present for the benefit and for the welfare of the children of today and of the future. We in this group trust that from this token of affection for Her Majesty, this happy thought, this common sense measure, which has our unanimous approval, and from this mutual expression of our common humanity will flow an ever-increasing stream of benefits for children of today and generations yet unborn.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Sevigny in the chair.

Clauses 1-4 inclusive agreed to.

On clause 5—*Board of trustees.*

Mr. Diefenbaker: Perhaps I might say a word with regard to clause 5. The printed form of the bill contains just subclause 1, to establish the board of trustees, and subclause 2—"the head office of the board shall be at the city of Ottawa." It does not contain