

Disabled Persons Act

own advance of \$1,250 million to Britain, a sum which was spent here. There were all kinds of factors, including the Korean situation. All these things must be considered in the light of the situation which emerged just about the time of the change of government—the slowing down of European demand, the greatly increased productive efficiency of Europe which had been given practically a brand new send off by the Marshall plan, and the rapid increase in automation in combination with a slowing down of the economy in the United States. These things seem to me to present a clear picture and I was, therefore, distressed to hear the Leader of the Opposition say what he did. The hon. gentleman is a very old and valued friend and up to the present time I have had the feeling that if the Canadian electorate did suddenly go mad at the time of the election and vote for the return of the Liberal government it would not, at any rate, be so bad because we would have people we knew. But this afternoon, when I heard the hon. gentleman make the statement which he made with apparent confidence, I was really shaken and I recommend him to have another look at the economists of various types that he has gathered around him.

Before I sit down I want to make one comment on the speech made this afternoon by the hon. member for Port Arthur. I am sorry to see that his opinions are more or less shared by my good friend from Kootenay West.

The idea seemed to be that socialists have a monopoly on social security. I was not able to take any other meaning out of it. The hon. member for Port Arthur seemed to be very clear. He spoke out "loud and clear". Our friend the hon. member for Kootenay West was very much the same. I wonder where they have been living. How do they think these advanced measures of social security we now enjoy have arisen? Where did they come from if not from the two old parties? I really felt distressed that people living in this year of grace—if it is a year of grace—1962, should allow themselves to get to their feet and make that statement seriously.

I wish to refer to a short quotation from the Conservative convention of 1942. The hon. member for Port Arthur who, I am sorry to observe, is not in the house, is a man who travels, who reads and who very recently has been in England. He must know that for the last ten years or more in England social security ad-lib has been provided by the Tory party. I think they were under the influence of those great Tories Sir William Beveridge and Keynes whom I think nobody could describe as anything but people of the left.

[Mr. Macdonnell.]

Before I take my seat and as an indication that this party to which I have the honour to belong has not learned about social security yesterday or the day before from our friends opposite, but have been seriously inclined to it for many years, I read the following from the proceedings of the Conservative convention of 1942 at Winnipeg, just 20 years ago:

We believe that the reconstruction of post-war Canadian economy must be based upon the following principle set forth in Section 5 of the Atlantic Charter:

"Fifth: They desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field with the object of securing for all, improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security."

A social security program, the adoption of which we advocate, would include in a unified system:

- (a) Unemployment insurance;
- (b) Adequate payments for the maintenance of unemployables;
- (c) Retirement insurance;
- (d) The payment of increased old age pensions, at a reduced age, until such time as the retirement insurance scheme becomes fully operative;
- (e) Adequate pensions for the blind;
- (f) Adequate mothers and widows allowances.

Whatever criticisms or accusations can be brought against that program, I do not think anyone will argue that it was brought forward by people who were not deeply aware of the necessity for social services.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, I am just wondering whether the proceedings of the committee perhaps might be facilitated if I allowed two minutes' silence for the hon. member for Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm so that he could say "Under two flags" about ten times and "Six dollars" about 12 times instead of interrupting my speech with those foolish interjections.

Mr. Pigeon: Oh, no; your statements are foolish.

Mr. Pickersgill: However, as I have no hope whatsoever that I would induce a degree of temperance in the hon. gentleman, even if I allowed him two minutes, I think perhaps I should proceed at once.

Mr. More: Mr. Chairman, I am just a backbencher but I have been here for the past three years. I tackled the hon. gentleman once previously about this matter. I think it is only right to tackle him again when he refers to interruptions. If anyone wishes to check *Hansard* for the last four years he will find that, during one speech by the Minister of Finance, the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate holds the record for interruptions.

Mr. Pickersgill: Out of deference for the hon. member for Regina City who is one of the most amiable members of the house, I may say that the record to which he refers