

side. It does not proceed upon the theory that the economically strong are necessarily the fittest to survive, or that the economically weak are necessarily the unfit. In estimating fitness, it looks to character and personality, not to possessions. It considers human need rather than human greed. It recognizes that, without the many who comprise the economically weak, the economically strong would cease to have a superior position, or, indeed, any position. Social justice would not deprive position of its advantage, but it would require of advantageous position, a wider measure of social service.

When the committee begin their studies they will find that what is needed if social security measures are to be effective is not only a national minimum for industrial workers in any one country, but an international minimum which will help to preserve higher standards not in one country only but in all parts of the world.

Motion (Mr. Mackenzie King) agreed to.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

FARM DEBT—MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF FARM ORGANIZATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT ON MARCH 15

Mr. MACKENZIE KING moved the adjournment of the house.

Mr. GRAYDON: What will be the business on Monday?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Earlier in the week there was some discussion on the question of farm debt. I indicated that an opportunity might be given for a discussion of that subject perhaps early in the coming week, and that a statement on the matter would be made by the government very soon. The day I made that statement I had no knowledge of a letter since received which had been mailed at Edmonton on March 1 by Mr. Lucien Maynard, the chairman of the interprovincial debt conference and addressed to myself. In the letter Mr. Maynard states that there had been a conference of farm organizations and the governments of the prairie provinces at which it was decided to request an interview with myself and members of the government on the question of obtaining adequate debt

legislation. Later he goes on to say that as chairman of the interprovincial conference, which I think was the one held at Saskatoon—
—I was asked to communicate with you and arrange an appointment for the purpose of enabling representatives of the governments and the farm organizations to make further representations. . . . We are therefore prepared to meet you at your convenience. We would greatly appreciate an appointment for Monday, March the 15th, but if this date is not suitable we are prepared to meet you at your convenience on any subsequent date that would be suitable during the week of the 15th.

Upon receipt of that communication I replied that the government would be pleased to receive the delegation on the earliest date mentioned, March 15. The government has felt that any statement to be made should be reserved until after we have heard the representations of this delegation. I think hon. members will agree that it is obviously right that this should be so. For this reason the statement by the government on farm debt matters will not be made until after the government has received the further representations that this delegation may wish to make.

In regard to Monday's proceedings it has been intimated already that the debate on the budget would be continued. I believe it will be an economy of time, as well as perhaps of a more concentrated debate, if we continue with the debate on the budget until we dispose of it. If we begin discussion on other measures it is going to mean a great deal of repetition in what is said. From the conference I have had with the leaders of the different groups I think I can say that we are all of the view that while we must not make too rigid a decision, we should nevertheless aim at getting through the debate on the budget before taking up other matters. There is this one exception, that there are two committees still to be appointed, one to deal with radio and the other on war expenditures. I will confer with the leaders of the parties as to a date for the discussion of those matters, but the proposal now is to go ahead with the budget debate on Monday.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 7.10 p.m.