

Family Allowances

is due to lack of character and thrift; but much also is evidence of want of effective social control. What society fails effectively to prevent, society is in some measure under obligation to mend. That is what we are seeking to effect by this measure.

Let me give the house a few figures, which I gave before and which I now repeat, hoping they will be weighed carefully in all parts of this country, for they relate to the future of Canada if Canada is to hold her place as a country, strong enough to maintain her position in competition with other nations and in the face of situations which may arise in the course of time, when to see that its rights are fully protected this country will need all the population it can support and all the strong and vital men it can raise. I was pleased to notice that last night the hon. member for Saskatoon City (Mr. Bence) referred to this statement, which in its significance I think is as important as any statement made in this house for a long time. According to the 1941 census, of the gainfully employed forty-eight per cent are single, thirty-nine per cent of the married or widowed have no children under sixteen and forty per cent of those with children under sixteen have only one child. What does this mean? It means that eighty-four per cent of the children under sixteen in Canada are dependent upon only nineteen per cent of the gainfully employed. That, I think, makes a case as strong as any that needs to be made for seeing that these children, who are the future men and women of this country, receive adequate care, adequate nourishment, adequate clothing, adequate housing and the meeting of all other essential needs.

Before us at this time, Mr. Speaker, is what is taking place in Europe, and we know something of the future we are about to face. I was inspired to undertake the particular study of social conditions and of industrial relations subsequently published under the title of "Industry and Humanity" by a passage which was brought to my attention by my late brother, Doctor Macdougall King. While writing a book on "The Battle of Tuberculosis and How to Win It," he drew my attention to a profound statement made by Louis Pasteur, to whose great service to mankind I have been pleased to hear so many fine references made in this house in the course of the present debate. I give that statement to hon. members of this house that they reflect upon the significance of its every line.

Pasteur had lived at the time of the Franco-Prussian war and had seen the efforts made by Germany to destroy Europe. He was not living at the time of the last war; he could

have known nothing of the present war. But we know of all these wars, and what Pasteur wrote in 1888 is surely seen to be truer than ever to-day. Pasteur required the aid of the microscope to discover the devastating germs within the blood; his finely trained intelligence enabled him to perceive like factors and forces at work in the world. In the light of his previously acquired knowledge, he saw the same conflict between individuals and between nations as he found within the human organism. This is the scientific utterance in relation to man which Pasteur has left to the world:

Two contrary laws seem to be wrestling with each other nowadays: the one, a law of blood and of death, ever imagining new means of destruction, and forcing nations to be constantly ready for the battlefield—the other, a law of peace, work, and health, ever evolving new means of delivering man from the scourges which beset him. The one seeks violent conquests, the other the relief of humanity. The latter places one human life above any victory; while the former would sacrifice hundreds of thousands of lives to the ambition of one. Which of these two laws shall ultimately prevail, God alone knows.

By the measure on family allowances before this House of Commons to-day, we are seeking to further the law of peace, work and health. Looking to the immediate establishment of a new order, we are giving to-day, by its provisions, a challenge to the law of blood and of death.

The house divided on the motion (Mr. Mackenzie King) which was agreed to on the following division:

YEAS

Messrs:

Abbott	Dechene
Authier	Denis
Bence	Diefenbaker
Bertrand (Laurier)	Douglas
Bertrand (Prescott)	Dupuis
Black (Cumberland)	Edwards
Black (Yukon)	Emmerson
Blackmore	Esling
Bonnier	Fair
Bradette	Fauteux
Bryce	Ferland
Burton	Ferron
Cardiff	Fournier (Hull)
Casselman, Mrs.	Fournier (Maison-
(Edmonton East)	neuve-Rosemont)
Casselman	Fraser (Northumber-
(Grenville-Dundas)	land, Ont.)
Castleden	Fraser (Peterborough
Church	West)
Claxton	Furniss
Cleaver	Gardiner
Cloutier	Gibson
Coldwell	Gillis
Coté	Gladstone
Crerar	Goulet
Cruikshank	Graham
d'Anjou	Grant

(Mr. Mackenzie King.)