

the second salary. Family allowances, advocated for a long time by sociologists as indispensable to the welfare of the home and the vitality of the population, could scarcely, in our country, have gone into effect before this time. The present war will at least have shown that if it is possible to find the funds needed to save the country, it should be equally possible to raise the money required for the security of the individual and of social groups. Unemployment insurance, health insurance, family allowances, all these measures will instil in the worker a sense of his own dignity as well as peace of mind and heart-felt contentment.

The contemplated amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act will very suitably complete the series of measures designed to increase the welfare of the Canadian population. The creation of three new departments to carry out the proposed laws and to turn the country back to peacetime occupations and customs indicates how comprehensive the programme of social rehabilitation will be after the war.

Everyone of you, honourable senators, knows the qualifications that distinguish our Prime Minister. A great minister in peace-time, he will prove to have been no less great in time of war. The prestige attached to his name will be recognized in history. On every occasion he has succeeded in surrounding himself with very able men capable of understanding him and of following the ideal of social justice which constantly inspired his policies. A government thus constituted is well qualified to enrich our Statute Book with fruitful laws. As for the Prime Minister himself, the legislative programme set up in the Speech from the Throne might in a way be considered as the crowning achievement of his career. But, fortunately, we have every reason to believe and to wish that this will not be the end of his political achievements. His administrative capacities, his mastership in the prosecution of the war, the thorough knowledge of all international matters which he has shown as Secretary of State for External Affairs, his great sense of realities together with his in-born idealism, all point to him as the logical leader of the Canadian delegation to the Peace conference. His advice, as leader of the government of a small nation, but at the same time of a gallant nation, will be invaluable. I have the impression, honourable senators, that you endorse the wish I am expressing, and I am satisfied that it reflects the opinion of the whole country.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN.

(Text): Now, honourable senators, just a word or two in English, in order that you may know I can speak English as well as French. In the Speech from the Throne we find an intimation that many social measures will be put on the Statute Book at this session of Parliament. I think we all realize that social measures are necessary for the post-war period; but no matter how much social legislation we pass, unless world peace is established and world trade flows freely there will not be true prosperity in Canada.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, Hear.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: The prosperity of Canada is largely dependent on the kind of peace we are going to have after this war. The contribution Canada has made to the war is equal to that of any of the Allied nations. Take mutual aid, for instance. We have given mutual aid to Russia, to sister Dominions, to Great Britain and to China. When peace comes and the prime ministers and other leaders of the different nations sit around the conference table, is there any man in Canada who will be able to accomplish more than the present Prime Minister? May God spare him!

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: I do not want to talk politics here, and I do not think anybody can accuse me of attempting political propaganda in this Chamber; but I ask you in all sincerity what our Conservative friends could do, even with John Bracken as their leader. Almost from time immemorial the Conservative party has stood for restriction of trade. If you have restriction of trade, no matter how much social legislation you may place on the Statute Book, you will not have prosperity. Take the C.C.F. The members of that party, naturally, ignore the international situation. They think that simply by passing social legislation, without taking into account world conditions, we shall secure prosperity for Canada. I am not an economist, but my common sense tells me that the prosperity of Canada depends on international trade; and in my opinion only one party in this country will be able to exert sufficient pressure at the peace conference to bring about an easy flow of trade, and that is the Liberal party.

Honourable senators, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion of the honourable senator from Central Saskatchewan (Hon. Mr. Johnston).

On motion of Hon. Mr. Ballantyne, the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.