

is sacred, a worth-while and a glorious experience; that the individual is valuable; that to each belongs the privilege and the obligation to make his or her social contribution; that the contribution of each is acceptable so long as it is his or her best.

Our children pass out of childhood. They reach the biological age when it is essential to normal development that they emancipate themselves from the shelter of homes and schools and when the biological urge is strong and suppression is disastrous and dangerous. Under the conditions of to-day these young people are confronted only with frustration and denial. They find themselves—like our vast stores of wheat in a country of starving people—a cause for public perplexity and embarrassment, simply because they exist.

Everywhere a vast diversity of services is needed to make the lives of our people tolerable, healthy and secure, services which, with an intelligent organization, these young people could be directed to render.

Where does responsibility lie? How many young lives must be partially or wholly blasted before their cry will be heard by those who have accepted responsibility for managing and directing our social system?

We, therefore, unanimously urge that emergency action be taken, while long term plans are evolving, to provide our young people with normal opportunities in life.

Very truly yours,

M. A. Hall,

Corresponding Secretary.

The reading of a long letter like that may not be considered a sign of a good speech, but some of us have reached the point where we are more interested in getting these questions discussed than we are as to the particular quality of our speeches.

I would like to support the amendment of the hon. member for Macleod (Mr. Coote). It seems to me that we have in this country abundance to provide for the needs of all our people and to meet such conditions as are outlined in the letter I have read from the women of Calgary. Canada is not a poor country; she is as wealthy as she ever was, wealthy as she was in the boom times. The real wealth is all here. The trouble is that the wealth is not available for the people. We in this corner of the house have tried again and again to show some of the reasons why that wealth is not available. The fact of our abundant wealth cannot be doubted or controverted by anyone. Let me put the case very simply: we have piles of leather that frequently are rotting on the farm because the farmer cannot receive anything worth while if he takes the hides to market. We have the machinery that is capable of transforming that leather into boots, but the machinery is rusting through disuse. We have over yonder large numbers of people, even boys and girls, who are going with poor shoes. Why cannot that leather be put

into that machinery and made available in the form of boots for the needs of the people? That exemplifies the real situation existing to-day in every department of our economic life. We may put it in more general terms than that, but that illustration may suffice to drive home the case. We have reached the point when we shall have to regard the great resources and equipment of this country as essentially the property of the Canadian people to be administered in supplying the needs of the masses.

Mr. J. A. FRASER (Cariboo): I should like to add my words of commendation to the excellent effort of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes) in presenting the annual budget. It cannot be questioned that the budget is a story of definite and unmistakable progress, and I think the people of this country will realize that a budget which shows such definite and unmistakable progress is entitled to some measure of commendation.

Before I proceed with the remarks I have to make, I would like to spend just one minute on the observations of the previous speaker, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth). As the leader of a party in Canada who is submitting his proposals to the people for their approval in the approaching general election, he says that the government has no program that is adequate to meet existing conditions. He makes that statement definitely and he spoke for forty minutes. I want any hon. member to point out to me any one proposal he mentioned that would cure the situation that we have at the present time, or that would improve it in any shape or form. Let me go further: I have listened in this house and in the country to the remarks of hon. gentlemen who sit in the extreme left corner and who call themselves the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, and I fail to find in anything I have ever heard them say where they have any policy of any kind to submit to the people that will improve conditions in this dominion. What remedies does he offer? The last remark he made was: Why cannot the leather be put into the machines and passed on to the boys in the shape of pairs of boots? Can he show us the way to do that sort of thing?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Yes.

Mr. FRASER (Cariboo): Did he attempt in any shape or form to show this house how that could be done?

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Yes, often.

Mr. FRASER (Cariboo): Well, we have not heard it.