

by permitting this kind of thing, and therefore there is nothing that we can do about it; that we should not allow any effort toward survival to interfere with the supreme effort to keep the peace, which is the only way we can survive. If, however, we cannot keep the peace, there are some, and I am not one of them, who claim that we should direct our own defence and foreign policy in such a way that it will at least ensure to the maximum possible extent keeping us out of war. I cannot accept that because I believe in collective security and collective obligations to that end.

There are others at the other extreme who say that we should do everything we possibly can to ensure the survival of the maximum possible number of our people, irrespective of the cost; that we must organize now for that purpose. In the reports I have been reading over the months, and I am sure the Prime Minister has read some of them—I am thinking of one in particular from the Stanford institute—there is a growing feeling that by proper organization and by proper survival methods we can ensure that in the worst contingency our people will not be destroyed.

The appropriation before us, \$33 million, or the total appropriation for this purpose, indicates that something is being done. Whether it is enough I do not know. Then there is the other question of organization. This is important if we are to try to ensure the survival of the maximum number of our people, having regard to the diversion of our resources for this purpose. Surely it is a matter of first importance that we have the best possible kind of organization for that purpose. The Prime Minister has indicated tonight what that organization is. It was discussed, I believe, in the estimates committee at some length with the Minister of National Defence. I myself feel that in respect of organization there should be much greater centralization than there is at present; that the responsibility for this vital matter is spread over too many departments. I do not deny, in fact it is obvious, that all the departments the Prime Minister mentioned are involved, but there must be one single ultimate authority, and as I understand it now there is no such single ultimate authority. If I am wrong, the Prime Minister will correct me.

We support the measures that are being taken but we do feel that if these measures are to be taken, and they now involve large expenditures, we should be given reasonable certainty at least that the organization is the most effective that can be developed for

that purpose and that there is close and constant liaison among all levels of government because all levels of government are certainly concerned.

Mr. Regnier: I believe this matter of civil defence is one of the most important problems facing the Canadian nation. I believe a well organized civil defence for survival is the greatest deterrent we can have against war or against attack. I think a nation that knew we were organized to survive might hesitate to declare war on Canada. I am one who believes that we should organize for civil defence irrespective of costs. We may be spending billions of dollars for national defence, military defence, just as deterrent, but if war should come it may be that all the money that we spend for national defence is money down the drain; that the only thing that might be useful would be shelters constructed for the survival of the Canadian people.

I know that when I came to this house in 1958 I was aghast to find that the previous government had prepared for one million casualties and had accumulated supplies to take care of that many people. I was scandalized that they had not prepared for prevention. I am not so much impressed with the cure. I think we should avoid casualties and I agree with the Prime Minister that we can survive if we prepare for survival. I think we can take the sting out of the bomb if we organize properly for civil defence.

I believe we should organize in such a way as to have one million shelters and that the government should help. Probably the winter works program should be made applicable to the building of shelters. I know that something is being done in the Department of Public Works to help in the construction of shelters, but I do not believe that if we leave it to the Canadian people to build shelters we will be ready if war comes.

We know that Khrushchev is rattling his rockets. We may have war tomorrow and we are not prepared. I would rather spend money on one million shelters than on 100 planes because planes may be useless against rockets and missiles whereas shelters would be a safeguard against fall-out from missiles or rockets. I really have been scandalized by the failure of the previous government to take action at the proper time. I am not satisfied that we are doing enough even today. I think this is the greatest emergency that has faced the nation and we must help the people to build shelters. We must make provision for allowing depreciation so far as income tax is concerned. We might even be able to pay half the cost of shelters because