

inadequate provision for a decent standard of living. The widow with two children, if the rank of her husband was below that of captain or flight lieutenant, receives a total of \$87 a month, which includes \$27 for the two children. Should the two children be over twelve years of age, a family allowance of \$16 a month is payable.

It is manifestly impossible for a widow to provide adequate shelter, clothing, food, education, medical and dental treatment for three adults on \$103, and I would recommend to the minister that this matter be given careful consideration. The seriously disabled pensioners are in the same position. These men find it impossible to supplement their pension with employment. There is no employment even for able bodied men particularly in my part of the country. We hear the minister's department making radio appeals to businessmen across Canada to give old soldiers a chance to work.

I consider that the department and the country owe more to those old men who fought in two wars than an appeal over the radio for someone else to give them a job.

I would turn now to another matter, Mr. Speaker. In concluding the budget address on April 29 last, the Minister of Finance reminded us that in two months' time we shall have occasion to celebrate the eightieth anniversary of the founding of confederation. He pointed out that the men of 1867 had faith in the future of the united Canada which they were striving to build. By making comparison, he emphasized the fact that we had travelled a long way since that time, until today we occupy a position of high responsibility in world affairs and one of great respect. His last words, at page 2562 of *Hansard*, were:

If we continue to show the courage, the unity and the spirit of cooperation which inspired the fathers of confederation, and which inspired our people during these last war years, our achievements in the peacetime years ahead will, I am confident, be equally striking.

We agree with that; there is no doubt about it. The name of Canada does stand high in this world today, but it was placed there, as you and I know, by the men who fought the war of 1914-18 and again from 1939 to 1945.

This afternoon, for a short time, I hope I may be pardoned if I speak particularly of a part of Canada which we feel has done its full share and more in the building up of this great country, but which for some untold reason has been shamefully neglected and prevented from receiving a fair portion of the benefits and prosperity which have blessed other parts of Canada.

I will not rehearse the facts, which are so well known by everyone conversant with the history of the maritime provinces. I will not tell you how at confederation we were considered to be, and were, I believe, in fact, the most prosperous part of the dominion. We lost nearly all our manufacturing industries in the succeeding years. Our young people were forced by thousands to leave our three provinces and they came to the west, they went to the United States, until today there are, it is said, more maritimers in the New England states than there are in the whole of the three provinces.

This is the story which has been told many times, and as many times have successive governments promised that these grievous faults would be corrected. I will speak of our situation as we find it today. The maritime provinces today, more than two years after the close of the war, find themselves with 30,000 unemployed. We find that our people are leaving by hundreds. We find there is no new industry being established in these provinces. As a matter of fact, the industries that were established are still leaving. I have only to refer to the speech made by my hon. friend the member for Cape Breton South (Mr. Gillis) a few days ago indicating that in every town and city in Nova Scotia one can find some industry which has folded up and come to Quebec or Ontario. The same could be said of my own province.

Go into any town and the people will tell you there used to be a shoe factory here, a cotton mill there, farm machinery manufacturers somewhere else. Today they have moved away. That is the situation now. Only on April 11, a month ago, an industry which had been in the town of St. Stephen since 1879 pulled up stakes and moved to Toronto. I have here a newspaper heading which reads:

New Brunswick loses industry. Soap factory and household name disappear when factory closes.

This was a factory that used to employ many people, turning out 125 tons of soap a week. It was bought by Lever Brothers some time ago and they recently closed it and moved the machinery to Toronto, so that today there is nothing left but the empty shell of a building. I could mention many others, but the member for Cape Breton South did a good job in that regard the other day.

National policies since confederation until the outbreak of the second world war have placed the maritimes under a great handicap. In 1939 the treatment we received from Ottawa became if anything shabbier and more unfair than it had been before. We had hoped for war industries and we had just reason to expect that such industries would be estab-