

made remarks against family allowances. It was not a problem of my position; it was not a problem of any one labour leader; it was the problem of the Canadian people. I considered from the start that family allowances were in the best interests of the people as a whole. But not long ago, in fact only last month I was again surprised to read certain remarks made by certain leaders of trade unions, remarks which I hope they made after not too much thinking. I hope they have changed their minds with regard to the statements they made on June 22.

J. W. Buckley, secretary of the Toronto trades and labour council, is quoted by the *Ottawa Journal* of June 22 as saying:

Aid to families with children is unnecessary if the wage-earners of the families make decent wages. All organized labour has flatly opposed grants which subsidize poverty and low wages and undermine incentive to self-improvement of living conditions.

I do not know what prompted Mr. Buckley to make such a statement. He is a mature, responsible labour leader.

Mr. HOMUTH: He was right.

Mr. ROSE: You would agree with that.

Mr. GRANT: He must be a Tory.

Mr. ROSE: No, he is not. The fact is, I would say, that Mr. Buckley had not thought very seriously about the problem when he made that statement.

Mr. HOMUTH: He has fought labour battles longer than any labour leader in this house.

Mr. ROSE: I would say that any mature labour leader knows that organized labour will look after the problem of wages. A strong trade union movement has always been the best guarantee for good wages and conditions.

Mr. HOMUTH: Have they done that in Quebec?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. ROSE: Our organized trade unions have done much more for the workers in the province of Quebec than any loud-mouthed group have done. I have said that in the past in this house. On the other hand, what I found most regrettable in Mr. Buckley's remarks is the following:

This looks like a subsidization of one province by the others, deduction from the pay envelopes of Ontario and the rest of Canada to maintain low standards and wages in Quebec.

I am not surprised when such statements come from some of the hon. members to my right, but I am shocked when such remarks

come from a leader of a trade union movement, because I have found in the trade union movement the best instrument in the fight for Canadian unity. I have known of cases where workers from one province would come to the aid of workers in another province when they were involved in a battle for better conditions. The Trades and Labour Congress of Canada and the Canadian Congress of Labour have taken the stand that wages in Quebec should be the same as wages elsewhere in Canada. I am, therefore, quite shocked to find a labour leader resorting to the argument that this is to subsidize Quebec at the expense of the rest of Canada. Practically a similar statement was made by another leader, C. H. Millard, according to the same issue of the *Ottawa Journal*. He said:

That allowances will serve under the present circumstances as an indirect subsidy to employers in the textile and other low paid industries.

Labour will welcome family allowances. Labour will strengthen its ranks in its trade union movement. Labour will welcome all progressive social security measures. Organized labour will win minimum wage scales which will be much higher than they are at the present time. I have much confidence that such changes will come about. I have even more confidence, after the statement made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) in this house yesterday that labour will be even more reassured. I was very much pleased to hear that fighting speech, a speech that I considered to be in line with the new times. There is no sense in anyone trying to say that this is politics, or that somebody wants to play politics. This is a change that has taken place all over the world. The whole world is marching forward, and, as I said before, those who do not want to go forward will be left behind. It is happening all around us and we in Canada must realize that we have no Chinese wall around us. We, too, are affected by the changes that are taking place in the world and, no matter from what part of the house reform measures come, we must welcome them, no matter what party introduces them. None of us has any monopoly on reform. If others want to introduce them we welcome them because the people will welcome them.

I was not surprised to hear some of the hon. members opposing the measure by threatening the people of Canada with bureaucracy. In fact I said that in my speech on reconstruction. In that speech I said that certain elements will come out and speak against reform measures because they are going to be carried through by a bureaucracy. I forgot that a few weeks ago. Yesterday I was