

our method of doing things than can be overcome by a hundred thousand men guided by humanitarian principles and sound business ethics?

I think that the social services which we have are good and helpful, but I believe the whole system should be based on the assumption that our nation is just one big family. In the old days a good Canadian family had a keen sense of family responsibility, and would do everything possible to try to take care of any member of that family who was not able to take care of himself; but such people would rebel at being expected to take care of someone who was able and competent to look after himself. So it should be with our nation: all able and competent citizens should feel it a privilege and a duty to do things for themselves and try to look after themselves. Further, they should feel it their duty to make some contribution to any system by which the state endeavours to look after those who through illness, blindness, or other physical or mental defects, are not able to look after themselves.

I believe that any permanent social security plan we attempt to set up in this country should be on a contributory basis; and I hope that some scheme of this kind will be the outcome of the conferences which are being held between the provincial and federal governments. The constant demands upon the government to extend and increase services of all kinds involve, of course, tremendous additional expenditure, with resulting increases in taxes. Careful consideration is desirable lest the government undertake expenditures that involve such an increase in taxation as will impose upon businessmen and farmers, wage earners and salaried people, such deductions from income as will make it impossible for them even to purchase homes, whereupon, finding that they cannot make any progress, they will become thoroughly frustrated and discouraged. I think we all appreciate the position in which the government finds itself. Our war debts must be met; the administrative costs of this country must be paid. We have pension plans, social service schemes, and a multitude of other projects, too numerous to mention, that must be provided for. Yet, as I have remarked, demands for more and more expenditures, with resulting higher taxes, are continually being made. I think the government should try to determine the extent of the tax burdens which our people are able to bear, and should hesitate long before going beyond that point.

What I should like to emphasize at this time, not with particular reference to honourable senators, but to all citizens of the country, is that if we are to have a healthy,

happy, prosperous nation, we must make up our minds to do our bit to bring about that result. These things have to be worked for; they do not just happen. We talk about the wealth of the country. Let us remember the simple truth that though there is wealth in our hills, in our rich and fertile soil, in our forests and rocks, in our mineral and oil deposits, and in many other resources, it can be extracted only by the labour of our people. Governments have no magic pot of gold from which to draw. The revenues with which a government does things for people come from those who work and toil to provide for our basic needs; from those who, by ingenuity and skill, manufacture what we require; from business people; from professional people; and much of the revenue comes from the ordinary individual, the average citizen.

We are told that at the present time developments are taking place which will make Canada one of the world's outstanding nations. I doubt whether any country offers more freedom or more opportunity than this country of ours. So that we, as Canadian citizens, can go forward with hope and optimism, we should endeavour to cultivate the closest unity and good will between all races and creeds, and in particular, the two great races of our country. I consider that my parliamentary experience has been most valuable in having brought me into close relationship with fellow Canadians from our neighbouring province of Quebec. I have great admiration for these honourable colleagues in both houses of parliament. I have always found them kind, courteous, honest and sincere in their views, and determined, by unity and good will, to make this Canada of ours a country of which we can all be proud.

I deeply appreciate this opportunity of speaking from my place in this chamber. Once again I would compliment honourable members of the Senate for the very efficient manner in which they conduct their business, and upon the thorough study which is given to bills sent to the various committees. As members of the Senate we should endeavour to co-operate in every way we can with the other branch of parliament to give this country the best possible legislation and leadership. Personally, may I say, I have found that the Senate is doing a much better job and making a far greater contribution to the business and the welfare of this country than it is usually given credit for. I hope we shall continue that good work.

Before I take my seat I should also like to pay my tribute of respect to our departed colleagues, the late Senators Sinclair and St. Père. I always had a very high regard