

way without further disruption and difficulty for the country.

The House also dealt with several important measures aimed specifically at assisting those whose income levels may not have been adequate to enable them to cope with current increases in prices, particularly of food. The House dealt expeditiously with a measure to increase family allowances for each child receiving allowances in Canada to \$12 per month, effective October 1 and for the balance of the year. The measure is to be effective until the new and improved family allowances program, which is on the order paper, can be implemented.

The House also dealt with two measures relating to old age pensions and guaranteed income supplements and to the superannuation of public servants. It introduced a different type of escalation relating to the first piece of legislation mentioned, providing for an escalation immediately on quarterly basis, and in the case of the second piece of legislation mentioned introduced a more generous form of escalation into the pension plan.

The House also dealt with a crop insurance measure, which was passed through all stages, and it gave second reading to a measure relating to the Canada Pension Plan and to one relating to residential mortgages. That is a further measure which may be of some assistance in dealing with the costs which must be borne by people who are interested in buying a dwelling house for themselves.

The House, as well, witnessed announcements and decisions by the government in relation to other matters which will deal with rising costs. I think specifically, perhaps as the best example, of the action to introduce a larger consumer subsidy which, together with some other measures, has resulted in the avoidance of a five-cent increase in the price of a loaf of bread, and of the measure with respect to milk which proposes to make available up to five cents per quart of milk consumed in Canada.

The House was also happy to hear the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) saying not long thereafter that an arrangement had been reached with the province of Quebec which assured that the effect of this measure would result in a benefit to consumers, inasmuch as there would be an avoidance of an increase in the price of milk in that province. We all look forward to arriving at similar arrangements with other provinces and other parts of the country. Today, the House also witnessed the tabling of the ways and means motions dealing with the export tax on oil. An announcement with respect to this matter had been made earlier.

In proposing that the House resume the adjournment, let me say this: It is well to note, and this is not well understood, that when the House adjourns and members return to their constituencies, by no means do they all automatically go on vacation. Indeed, the adjournment enables members to perform an extremely important part of their work, as they may spend time with their constituents, visit them and deal with their problems. Many members of this House, particularly the most dedicated, spend a great deal of time when the House is in session either in the chamber itself or in committees. As well, while in their offices, they attempt to deal with the problems of their constituents.

### Adjournment

The member of parliament is in many ways an ombudsman. He is a troubleshooter. He is a man who deals with the problems of people who come to him for help. A member often deals with problems which may have nothing to do with his parliamentary role. But because of his role as a member of parliament, as an elected representative, he may undertake to act in such matters. This means that there is a heavy load of work for so many of our members who fall into that category, who are dedicated to their work in parliament, that is serving their constituents as well as they can.

It is important that these and other members be away from time to time from this chamber and back in their constituencies, so that they may deal directly with the people whom they serve. It is important for that aspect of the member's work to be understood, so that the time the members spend away from the House of Commons is not misunderstood and so that their reason for being away from the House is not misinterpreted.

I believe, therefore, that the motion which I have moved ought to commend itself to all members of this House. In this way, we may have an opportunity to visit again with our constituents, to travel across the country, and then return on October 15 to take up the business of this House, having by that time had this additional contact with Canadians and with their views.

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I agree with what the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) said about the dual role of the member of parliament. As well as fulfilling his functions here, the member has responsibilities in his home, in his constituency and in other parts of the country. For that reason I want to compliment the Liberal government for bringing forward this motion, as I suspect very few of them look forward to going home and facing their constituents, in view of the record of inertia and incompetence which this government has gained in the last few weeks.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Baldwin:** We will not oppose the motion which the Minister of Justice has moved. It is the responsibility of the government to propose the motion and, as I say, we are not going to oppose it. Nevertheless, I want to take a few minutes of the time of the House to make some comments on what has been done.

First, although the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and other members of the government tried to create the impression that the government had decided to recall parliament to deal with the rail strike and the other problems related to inflation and the economy, it ought to be noted that, actually, the government was dragged back to this House, kicking, screaming and struggling. It had to deal with the rail strike, a matter which had been incompetently handled. I will not go into that now.

In any event, it is not the government that calls the House back into session; it is Your Honour. Your Honour does so, after consultation with the government. The government must assign reasons to Your Honour. I have no idea what went on between Your Honour and representatives of the government, but I would venture any amount of money that not one word was said about inflation and