

That all the words after the word "that" in the motion be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

This house views with grave concern the startling increases of expenditure proposed by the government for purposes of national armament in contrast with the inadequate provision for the social security of all sections of the Canadian people.

The hon. member for Vancouver North (Mr. MacNeil) therefore suggests a comparison, but his resolution is so worded that it inevitably leads to a contradiction. How could we vote against this motion of want of confidence, and later vote against the appropriations that are being asked for? The answer to that, Mr. Speaker, is that we should have first considered the present motion upon its merits, suggesting as it does a comparison between the amount of the defence estimates and the activities of the government as regards social welfare. There you have two major points calling for a conclusion which may exclude either an affirmative or a negative vote on the estimates.

In order to know whether these estimates are too large or not, let us see, in the terms of the motion, what the government has done in connection with social welfare. I always understood that the social welfare of a nation proceeded from a system of legislation giving the individual a feeling of mental and physical security wherefrom he derived full happiness. It means that if the social welfare policy of the present government answered the needs of our people, these estimates, always according to the terms of the resolution, would not be unreasonable.

You will admit that in discussing this question we must revolve within a limited circle, which I might even call a vicious circle. But I do venture to state that the social policy of this government should meet with the approval of all those who place the interest of their country above party contingencies.

The Liberal government, through its policies, its treaties, its agreements, the ever increasing volume of our trade and commerce, and conventions based on moderate free trade principles, gave rise to an evident feeling of sympathy towards Canada among other nations of the world: Agreements with the United States, Germany and France; the renewal of the Ottawa agreements on a more equitable basis; the statements of Right Hon. Mackenzie King at Geneva; the positive statements of our leaders concerning our absolute independence in case of a European war, all this ought to set our minds at rest.

As regards our domestic policy, both in the economic and the social spheres, we have had

relief works, the Dominion Textile trust was brought to reason, prices improved, money is circulating more freely, loans were granted to the western provinces, a bonus was paid on wheat, there was a decrease in our federal deficits, and a satisfactory improvement in business as a whole. All these things, Mr. Speaker, make for a greater sense of security among our Canadian people than under the tory administration of 1930. And we should condemn it all through a vote of want of confidence in the government just because, this year, there is some fear that the increase in the defence estimates may reflect excessive imperialism? That is a conclusion which I cannot share.

The comparison is evidently defective, but we must take it such as it was presented to us by the hon. member for Vancouver North. Therefore, I shall vote against this motion. My mandate as a member of this house does not leave me any other alternative, for I was elected on the express understanding that I would support the government in its fair measures. But is this request for an increase of \$14,000,000 in the defence estimates a fair measure? That is altogether a different question. Any man is loath to spend money to buy anything for purposes of destruction. It is with some hesitation that I find it unfortunately necessary to vote for these estimates. I have carefully listened to the speech of the hon. the Minister of National Defence, and I shall support certain appropriations which I consider reasonable, but I am reserving the right to appreciate later some other items the necessity of which I do not quite grasp at present. I shall discharge my duties and my responsibilities as a Canadian to the full, without the least egoist thought as to my personal political aggrandizement. While objecting most strenuously to Canada's participation in foreign wars, I am in favour of taking any steps that might be necessary for the preservation of our internal peace. I want the constituted authorities to be strengthened in such a way that they may be able to hold in check the revolutionary mob whose existence is not recognized in certain quarters but which is planning, under cover, to destroy our secular institutions, in order to raise upon their smoking remains, the haughty structure of their pagan universities and Godless schools.

I am also sceptical as regards the possibility of attacks from the outside, but I may ask those who refuse to believe in such a contingency to prove its impossibility. International events are such that no man can foretell what complications they may lead