

not worked out, and a concrete plan presented to parliament before one angle of it was thrown into the legislative sea.

As Mr. Marsh points out in his report on social security for Canada—and this is found at page 88, where he deals with cash allowances as part of a social security system:

The third method is to recognize children's allowances in forthright fashion, as a specific social security measure justified on its own merits. What is envisaged in this report is a children's allowance system considered as a unit along with unemployment insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, and other measures in the social security system, but geared into them at every point where they belong. Not only is this logical, but it will contribute immensely to administrative simplicity and efficiency if this plan is adopted. This has now been indicated at many points in preceding sections, and requires no further emphasis.

Where in the present system of social welfare measures have we any integration whatsoever, so far as the dominion and the provinces are concerned? I suggest we have none. We just grab here and grab there, do this and do that, without any consideration of the vast, broad picture involved.

I am particularly interested in the implementing of most of the recommendations proposed in the report of the royal commission on dominion-provincial relations, commonly known as the Sirois report. It is my understanding that this commission studied the whole problem, and made recommendations with respect to the reallocation of responsibilities and the sources of revenue of the provinces and the dominion. Those of us who come from the province of Saskatchewan feel keenly about the implementing of that report. We have felt that if many of the recommendations made had been adopted we would have obtained a place in the confederation which would be much fairer than the one we have had heretofore. We have found out that as a result of the peculiar situation in which we are placed, the responsibilities we have been asked to share under confederation are far greater than we are able to discharge in relation to our income.

That report, as I understand it, contemplated a broad approach to the whole question of social security, and, I believe, even had in mind the solution of the type of problems with which we are faced to-day in connection with family allowances. As an indication to the house of the state of mind of those who prepared the report, I should like to quote briefly from the recommendations made in connection with

financing provincial and municipal social services. We find this at page 44 of book II of the recommendations:

Our financial recommendations aim to place every province in a position to finance its own social welfare programme in accordance with average Canadian standards, and to make such adjustments with its municipalities in the financing of this programme as seems to it reasonable. Moreover, provision for periodical revision of adjustment grants and for emergency grants should enable each province not only to protect its standards in social services, but also to improve them at the average pace maintained by the provinces as a whole. This method we believe will ensure to the provinces not only the capacity to provide reasonable welfare services for their people, but complete autonomy in the formulation of their social welfare policies, in the choice between alternative services and between alternative methods, and in the administration of their services.

And then it went on to say:

This does not rule out the possibility of dominion assistance by grants-in-aid for particular services (e.g. mothers' allowances or special health measures) should the dominion so decide. It is indeed possible that dominion assistance of this sort might be a means of improving, or coordinating, or equalizing particular provincial services, and it is possible that the national interest might on occasion justify such a step.

I suggest it is obvious from that report that the commission had clearly in mind the thought that there would be a getting together of the provinces and the dominion for the purpose of solving these problems as a whole. It is my belief that the Prime Minister would have been far better off in the long run if this plan had come out of a dominion-provincial conference, after the whole matter of social welfare, finance and reallocation of jurisdiction had been carefully gone into, and agreement arrived at.

It seems to me the main premise for the solution of most of our social welfare problems lies in a consideration of the recommendations of that report, and a working out of a scheme which will eradicate the present constitutional difficulties. After all, there are many other things we must consider besides family allowances, important as they are. There is, for instance, the matter of education. There is the matter of a badly needed increase in the payment of old age pensions. There is the matter of blind pensions, and some sort of aid for people who are totally incapacitated and who have no means with which to keep themselves. There are many other social problems which should have been worked out before it was decided to spend \$200,000,000 on this particular project.

I should like to know how the expenditure of \$200,000,000 will affect these other measures. How will it affect the question of whether or