

Mr. KUHL: Have they inflation in Britain now?

Mr. BRADETTE: It is inflation in this sense, that the government has perfect control of it.

Mr. KUHL: Would you be in favour of controlled inflation?

Mr. BRADETTE: Controlled, yes. But nobody will make me believe that the redistribution in this country in four or five years of \$22,500,000,000 of new money would be a solution of the problems we are facing at the present time.

I do not want to enlarge too much on this question, but I come to the statement made by the hon. member for Grey-Bruce that there are in our midst many people who will never be able to do a good day's work. Undoubtedly we have a great number of unemployed, young and old, but old age is only relative. When we speak of providing a pension for people of sixty-five we must realize that it would not be satisfactory to some people of that age to be pensioned off. I believe it was the present leader of the opposition who, during the election of 1935, said he was going to pension people at the age of fifty. How many members of this chamber would care to be retired at the age of fifty? I know many men who can do a good day's work at a much greater age; I could cite many instances of farmers of sixty and over who can still do a better day's work than some men of twenty or thirty. Old age is only relative, and I would not make the pensionable age lower than it is now until such time as we fully implemented the provisions of the existing act. I have referred to some of the abuses, and I hope some hon. members will enlarge on that.

Again I say, let us be realists as far as possible. After all, governmental expenditures are made under a capitalist system; the present system of government is based upon that principle. I do not believe that any one in this house would want to have governmental capitalism such as they have in Russia. There might be some improvement in old age pensions under such a system; but I would ask anyone who advocates such a system, Does he realize the cost of government in human blood and human misery where that system prevails? I am sure no one wants those things in Canada; no one wants them under our British institutions. If ever the day comes when any of the parties sitting to the left of the speaker should form a government, and if I happen to be sitting in the opposition then, I shall be as fair to them as I want them to be to the government to-day. Well, what is being advocated now?

It has been said over and over again that if we had another war it would be possible to finance it. I make this prophecy, that if there were another war Canada would not have provoked it nor would Canada be on the offensive. Canada did not want the war of 1914, and there is not a single member who could criticize our attitude from 1914 to 1918.

We want to solve the problem which we are discussing to-night, just as we want to solve all the problems that face the dominion to-day, because we do not want to see anybody in our constituencies suffer. We want to see people enter into the more abundant life and be engaged in fruitful occupations, and we want to see something done for the youth of the country. I, for one, do not want to see military service in Canada such as they have in Europe. I wonder whether hon. members have pondered the statement made by Hitler some three years ago when France was alarmed at the discovery that a million young Germans were being conscripted for the army. What did Hitler say? To appease France, he said that these men were simply being taken out of the ranks of the unemployed. Surely we do not want two or three hundred thousand young Canadians given employment by this means; we do not want to have them similarly conscripted for military service. There are great undertakings ahead of us in Canada such as reforestation and the development of agriculture. There are a hundred and one ways of employing the youth of the country without adopting any policy such as we see in Europe.

If it were possible, I should like to see the age limit lowered to sixty-five, but I believe that the mover of the resolution is just as fully aware of the difficulties as the rest of us in this house are. He is a humanitarian and he suffers with those who suffer. Just as we all feel in this matter, he wants them to be happy and to live the fuller life, and for that reason, in view of the difficulties which lie in the path of the proposal that he has made, I hope he will find it possible to withdraw his resolution.

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (Minister of Finance): I understand that quite a number of members desire to speak on the resolution, and I wish to take this opportunity of putting before the house the point of view of the government in connection with it.

Speaking for myself, no resolution which comes before the house strikes a closer chord of sympathy than the one now under discussion. The subject is one with which I am concerned in an administrative way as the officer of the government who must deal with the provinces with regard to the matter, and consequently