

The Address—Mr. Crestohl

to leave Canada for short or long periods to preserve their health or in order to reside with a child outside of Canada rather than live with strangers or alone. If the denial of the monthly pension is to produce real hardship, the minister, I know, will have another look at this section of the act with a view to eliminating such a possibility.

I should like to draw to his attention also that a satisfactory explanation to justify the suspension of these payments has not been made. If I recall correctly, the only explanation given was that those who leave Canada will not be here to spend their money, while those who remain in Canada continue to make their contribution by paying sales tax on the purchases which they make in Canada. The mathematics of this explanation, in my opinion, does not justify the conclusion reached. Let us have a look at it in dollars and cents. The \$40 per month which is not spent in Canada by the person who leaves the country deprives Canada of the 2 per cent sales tax on that amount which he would spend if he resided in Canada, so the country is deprived of 80 cents per month. To preserve this 80 cents we deprive a needy person of the \$40 per month if he is obliged by circumstances to leave the country. I do not think this feature is in line with the lofty purpose of the act, and I have every confidence that the minister will review this section in the light of the generous spirit of the entire legislation.

May I also, Mr. Speaker, say a word about the title of the bill, despite the fact that I raised that question at the time the bill was considered. I raise it once more in the hope that upon reflection the minister may see no harm but much good in recommending a change in the title. It is true that a rose by any other name smells just as sweet, but in considering legislation of a special and delicate character due regard should be had for each clause, for each phrase, including the title. The minister has given this legislation an atmosphere of some reverence. In order to maintain this appreciation I feel that the language "Old Age Security"—which suggests a pension—in the title of the bill itself is an undesirable feature. There is nothing disagreeable in the word "pension" because one can refer with pride to the title veterans pension, which is an award made to the heroes of our country for services rendered. On the other hand the words "old age security" or old age pension seem to carry a subtle connotation associated with philanthropy or relief. It is precisely this reflection that I should like to see modified. I am, therefore, hopeful that, in a general review of the bill as it advances in practice, the minister will conclude that some such title as "An act for

the benefit of senior Canadians" would better suit this particular legislation and that he will, in consequence, recommend a change in the title.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a word on another matter which is causing some concern in many quarters. About two weeks ago the newspapers reported that the first German ambassador since the war has been duly accredited to Canada, and that complete embassy and consular services are to be established here. As I said a moment ago there is considerable apprehension surrounding this fact, because many of the German consular officials recently accredited to the various countries are suspected of being men indoctrinated with the nazi and totalitarian philosophy, who were formerly connected with the nazi party in Germany. I quote from a report datelined Washington, D.C., November 9, 1951, which appeared in the *Canadian Jewish Chronicle*, published at Montreal:

The "new" German diplomatic corps is preparing to expand its operations by opening a considerable number of consulates in the United States and throughout the world. Some of the men it will send out formerly worked with American anti-Semites to promote nazi propaganda in this country. In January, 1951, the 252 members of the German diplomatic service included a total of 151 who served under von Ribbentrop, 130 of them members of the nazi party.

I therefore urge upon the government that these gentlemen, and all other immigrants to Canada from Germany, should be most carefully screened and examined. The greatest caution should be taken to safeguard this country from the influences which may penetrate from the fascist right as well as from the communistic left. We want neither of these evil influences to impede or interfere with the development of our country on the democratic foundations upon which it stands, and on which it has flourished and will continue to flourish, making it one of the greatest democracies in the world.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the subject now before the house is the subamendment which was moved on November 7 by the hon. member for Acadia (Mr. Quelch), asking for an increase in the amount of the war veterans allowance to compensate for the increase in the cost of living. I intend to devote my remarks to that subject and to speak as strongly as I can in support of that proposition. Before I do so, however, I may say that it seems a bit of a coincidence that I should get the floor immediately after the speech that has just been made by the hon. member for Cartier (Mr. Crestohl). If I had thought that it would be in order on any