

*Interim Supply*

be obtained in Canada and that it is essential to national prosperity. We also say that until plans to this end are able to take effect no one in Canada should have to suffer because, through no fault of his own, he is unable to earn a livelihood. In the early days of Canadian history anyone was able to take an axe and the gun, go out into the wilds and acquire his basic needs. That day has now gone. Today people are living in apartments and are paying relatively high rents. They are completely helpless in obtaining employment. It is no longer up to them to decide whether or not they shall work. Other people have the exclusive power to decide that. If these individuals cannot work all we can do for them apparently under this government is provide unemployment insurance and, when that runs out, a small degree of welfare hardly sufficient to meet the monthly rental. That is not good enough. The government of the day promised the people something entirely different when they last went to the country. For this reason we should like to see them again go to the people. I am sure the people will not have forgotten the promises made in 1958.

The government has completely failed to introduce an all inclusive and comprehensive social security program. In the field of portable pensions we heard a few words during the budget speech to the effect that the minister is going to look into the existing provincial and private pension schemes in an attempt to see whether he can arrive at some mutually satisfactory arrangement. As long as this government is going to depend on private pension schemes in Canada it will have failed in the field of social security. The government must bring forward a pension scheme which is portable under federal government supervision. In order to do so I realize there must be co-operation among the provincial and federal governments. It cannot be done by the federal government alone. We heard during the budget speech that the government intended to look into the existing private schemes operating in the various provinces to see if some measure of portability in respect to pensions could be achieved. I suggest this is inadequate on the part of the government.

Mr. Chairman, we feel that this government lacks both ability and determination to resolve the social economic problems of the Canadian people. We believe in expansion and progress, and we believe success in this field is beyond private programs. We are not so sure that possibly the promises made in 1958 did not outline the proper course, but from then till now it has become obvious that the follow-up on the part of the government on behalf of

the people has been inadequate. Indeed, we believe this government is responsible to the nation as well as to the individuals of this nation. We believe this government has responsibility to world peace and progress in that direction. We realize that it has failed there too.

I will admit that the Liberal party during 22 long years finally led us into the mess in which we arrived in 1957. However, the Tories claimed they had the answer to the situation. We maintain that only a party which is free, with members of parliament who are free to express their personal opinions without being in hock to campaign funds will be able to give good government to the people of Canada.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. McCleave):** Shall the resolution carry?

**Mr. Peters:** Mr. Chairman, I am amazed by the great eagerness on the part of members of parliament to go home. I think it is important that we should illustrate some of the reasons why they are anxious to go home.

In the last few weeks we have been involved mainly in discussions regarding the banks, bankers and banking problems. This is something we should have expected a Social Credit representative in this house to precipitate. We have been continuously amazed by some of the things which have happened. We are at the present time amazed as a result of some of the things which have happened in the last day or two regarding the banking situation.

The latest rumour I heard is that the former governor of the Bank of Canada has been offered the chairmanship of the international monetary fund, and that one of his first jobs will be to call upon the Canadian Minister of Finance to justify the position taken in relation to the devaluation of the Canadian dollar. Of course, we also hear the story that Donald Gordon is being replaced and recalled to the bank where he was formerly the deputy governor to take over the duties of the governor. These are all interesting suppositions. I suggest there will be more rumours as days go by.

I had hoped that the Prime Minister would be in the chamber in order to give us the benefit of a statement of fact in this regard, because it is the Prime Minister who will be appointing the new governor. We should like to know if it is going to be Donald Gordon because he in turn will be replaced by someone else. I presume that individual will be my friend and colleague from Port Arthur, or one of the other applicants for the job who are not nearly as well qualified.