

We have done many other things, Mr. Speaker. We have raised large sums of money for the relief of the people of devastated Belgium. We have aided the people of Serbia. In every possible way by voluntary contribution the people have done their full share, and I am thankful for it; it has been a blessing not only to those for whose benefit these sums were raised, but also to those who made the contributions.

When my hon. friend, therefore, at this hour attempts to delay indefinitely the passage of this Bill by a motion purely of a dilatory character, and intended as such, and seeks to bring the Canadian Patriotic Fund into discredit before the people of Canada and of the Empire, I say that I have no sympathy either with his motion or his motive, and without any hesitation whatever I declare to this House that the Government cannot accept it.

Hon. FRANK OLIVER (Edmonton): Mr. Speaker, I am more than astonished to hear the Prime Minister—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. OLIVER: I am more than astonished to hear the Prime Minister declare that a motion which affects the welfare and the interests of those who are dependent upon our soldiers who are fighting at the front—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. OLIVER: —is a dilatory motion—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. OLIVER: —and one that should not be considered by this House. I should like to take this opportunity, even at this late hour in the morning—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. OLIVER: —of saying that if the Prime Minister cannot agree with the hon. gentleman (Mr. Copp) who has just spoken, neither can I agree with the Prime Minister.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. OLIVER: We have had experience in matters affecting the war and the support of those who are carrying on the war which leads some of us to the conclusion that some of the things that have been done in the past have not been well done, or, if they have been well done, should have been done better. In this the third

year of the war, it is high time that we should see that the things which particularly concern those whom we honour so highly, those of whom we speak as our boys in the trenches—

An hon. MEMBER: And that you do not want to help.

Mr. OLIVER: That we do not want to help?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. OLIVER: That we do not want to help? The Prime Minister and the men behind him are using their authority and their majority in this House to prevent their being assisted.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. OLIVER: Mr. Speaker, it is not only the men who are prevented from being helped; it is their wives and their children—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. OLIVER—their mothers and their sisters, who are not to receive the attention of the House or of this Government, because it is four o'clock in the morning.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. OLIVER: The Prime Minister has told us that the dependents of our men are getting as good treatment as the dependents of the soldiers of any of the Allied nations—or did he say that their treatment was better? It does not concern me what treatment other countries give their men or the dependents of those men; I am not responsible for that. But 4 a.m. I am responsible as a member of this House for the treatment that this country gives our soldiers and their dependents, and that responsibility, with all due deference to my right hon. friend and those who sit behind him, I propose to discharge on this occasion.

Mr. EDWARDS: How about royalties on coal mines?

Mr. OLIVER: Did I hear my hon. friend make a remark with regard to riots in coal mines?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Royalties.

An hon. MEMBER: Or singing God Save the King.

Mr. SPEAKER: I must ask hon. members to bear in mind that this is a deliberate assembly.