

to the people of this country and to labour particularly: There is no question about what we can do in the production field. We can, if we are supported by the people of this country, organize a production programme that will guarantee to every person in Canada a decent standard of living, and that is what we are determined to do.

The second thing we want to do is this, and I think we should have started out to do it twenty-five years ago. In our educational structure we should be preparing the people for leisure time, preparing them so that when the day of leisure comes they will be able to use it wisely and exercise the responsibilities that go along with it. But we have failed to do that. It seems to me that if we declare that to the country, that we are determined to see to it that our production is kept high, and that we mean to see that that high production is distributed equitably among the people so that every one of them can enjoy an abundant living in this country, we can set at rest the feeling of unrest and insecurity among the labour people.

Next we should say to them this: In order to make it possible for as many people to work as can work in this country we are going to start in at both ends of the supply of labour and remove some from the top and some from the bottom, so that those who are left may find work, so that there will not be such terrific competition for jobs. That was the reason for my asking the suggestion I did in the debate on the speech from the throne. I said then, although I do not enjoy quoting myself, because I am no authority—

The CHAIRMAN: Under the rules I do not think the hon. member can quote even his own speech.

Mr. LOW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will say this: I believe that we are going to come to the time when it will be absolutely essential in the interests of the Canadian people to lower the pensionable age of our aged and to increase the amount of the pension to a decent standard, and I have always stated that it must not be less than \$50 a month. I contend that the absolute necessity of this will become more and more apparent as we develop into an unemployment problem in the Dominion of Canada. Why? If we should set out to remove from the labour market all those aged people, let us say sixty years and over, and give them a decent standard of living, we should reduce competition in the labour field tremendously and make it much easier for those who are left. That will have to be done. I quite well remember the day when a man of forty-five years of age looking for a job was told that

he was too old, and I understand that men to-day are running into the very same experience. Already men of forty-five years of age are finding it hard to get a job in the labour market, and so I ask, are we really a little bit crazy when we suggest pensioning them off at sixty? That will take some of them out of the labour market and make it easier for the others. It will take some of us out of this House Commons too, but that would not hurt very much. I think people of that age should be put out to pasture and given a good time for the rest of their lives.

But seriously, on the other end of the labour scale we find the young people who, from lack of resources, are forced out of school before their education is finished. Year after year these young people are leaving high school and college because their dads and mothers cannot afford to keep them in school. I have always contended, and rightly, I think, that no capable boy or girl in our land should for lack of money be denied the opportunity of such educational attainment as he or she wishes to go out and get, and has the capacity to take.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. LOW: If that is true, then it is necessary for us to give careful consideration to establishing scholarships of one form and another to enable these boys and girls to finish their education and to get their training. That is what this group stands for. How it is done, I do not care two hoots; but I want to see it done. Take away these two groups from the competing labour market—the aged, and the young who are forced to leave school to get work, and the pressure on the labour market will be tremendously relieved. I commend that to the government in making their plans for the future.

In conclusion, knowing full well that what I say is true, I am going to make this statement. With resources such as Canada has, labour will never be set at rest again until some such assurances as I have outlined are given to them in this dominion. They are entitled to it. The day is long past due when we should make those declarations to the people of this country, and then set to work to attain them. We never shall accomplish more than we definitely set out to do, and my judgment is that we should set the objective before us right now and get to work in a unified way to accomplish it.

Mr. MACKENZIE: May I make one suggestion to the committee and I hope that it will not be misconstrued. If there is any possibility of finishing this session before Christmas. I think we should endeavour by