

which would be incidentally an advantage. These, of course, are mere minor, incidental benefits. The chief advantage is what I have stated, that it would enable all wage-earners, by a moderate sacrifice, to make an effectual provision for their old age, and would guard them against the swindling projects by which many of them have been deluded into making sacrifices they could ill afford, only to wake up in their old age to find themselves destitute. I regret the rules of this House prevent me from introducing a measure of this kind here. It has to be introduced in the lower House.

I can, as my hon. friend requested, lay the draft Bill on the table of the House if the House so desires, but it must be distinctly understood that it is only as a draft Bill; that the government are not committed to it, and that it is merely laid on the table for the purpose of being useful in the discussion, and is subject, even if adopted, to alteration and amendment in any shape. If my hon. friend and the House desire, there can be no particular objection to placing the draft on the table of the House for those purposes, and I have no objection to do so.