

C.C.F. But the C.C.F. party are endeavouring to do their utmost to destroy the Social Credit party.

The Social Credit party has a method of financing which, in my judgment, is of world significance. The Social Credit party has advocated a method of financing which has not been advocated by any other group in Canada. The method is unique and is sound, and it will be proved so by history just as sure as we sit here. But the C.C.F. are trying to destroy that method of financing along with the Social Credit party.

I now turn to the hon. member for Davenport. There is a great tendency on the part of a lot of men to think that you just cannot have social security methods except by setting up some great big unmanageable state. They think you cannot have social security in Canada unless you concentrate all the power in Ottawa and take all the power away from the provinces. They assume that the men in the provinces, Anglo-Saxons, Britishers, intelligent men, do not know how to manage the affairs of a province. That is a stupid idea. If the hon. member for Davenport will remember that if the power to create money in the hands of the dominion government be exercised and the resultant money be distributed equitably among the provinces, all the other matters pertaining to social security and economic well-being can safely be left to the intelligent men of the provinces who have been elected to take care of their affairs.

Progress reported.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

After Recess

The house met at eight o'clock.

CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION

EXTENSION OF OPERATION OF ACT—FURTHER PROVISIONS AS TO CONTRIBUTIONS, ETC.

Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Minister of Justice) moved the second reading of bill No. 171, to amend the Civil Service Superannuation Act.

Mr. G. L. BOUCHER (Carleton); Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to rise and give approval to the bill brought before the house by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Hsley), through the Minister of Justice (Mr. St. Laurent). I hope hon. members will give it unanimous approval, because it is another step in ironing out the great number of diffi-

culties of employees of the dominion government. I believe that in these days, when we are all considering changing the old order and thinking more of human beings than of material things, and are facing reconstruction day where changes must be brought about, and, when, as the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) said this afternoon, a new order must be brought into existence, we should first attempt to remove a number of handicaps and the difficulties of the old order.

I approve the provision in this bill allowing many servants of the government who have served for many years to enter the civil service superannuation fund and partake with their fellow servants of the crown in the benefits of superannuation. Superannuation is a matter in which the government should give a lead, and we should extend it so far as we can. I am sure that many hon. members and, indeed, many people in the country at large have little knowledge of the difficulties which arise in the administration of civil service affairs and of the inequities which prevail there, even though it is run by the government of Canada as the employer. The government should be a model employer of labour and of help and set an example for the rest of the employers of the country to follow. I do not think the dominion government should require persons who have served the crown faithfully for from one to forty years to retire at an advanced age without adequate means of support for themselves and their dependents. It would be a black mark upon our national life and our national pride if such conditions were to continue.

I have thought that in this bill we could have gone farther. In various departments of the government there are employees whose status is temporary simply by virtue of statutory enactment and regulation. Some of them—and I could quote statistics from a pamphlet I have received recently from the printing bureau—have been employed by the government for from forty-six to fifty years; yet they may still be temporary employees.

I believe that this bill will go a long way toward remedying another situation, mainly, that of those who are commonly known as prevailing rate employees. A great many civil service employees are engaged through the civil service commission. I think the present state of affairs is fairly satisfactory so far as those receiving appointment through the commission are concerned. The great difficulty arises over those who are not appointed under the Civil Service Act but are prevailing rate employees. I regret that this bill does not go quite far enough in the interests of those