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FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1944

Diefenbaker and Green Will Vote for Allowances

The Progressive Conservative front in parliament has broken on the children's allowances issue. The break-through took place yesterday when John G. Diefenbaker, of Lake Centre, and Howard C. Green, of Vancouver South, declared they will support the government's measure. These are both leading members of the Conservative party in the House of Commons, and, indeed, in the country as a whole, for they ran third and fourth respectively in the leadership contest which Mr. Bracken won. Mr. Diefenbaker, a native of Newstead, Grey county, was formerly leader of the Saskatchewan Conservatives. Mr. Green, native son of British Columbia, is one of the most popular Conservatives of that province.

Mr. Diefenbaker doubts the constitutionality of the allowances bill and wants it submitted to the supreme court for a decision. But he said in the House yesterday: "I am going to support this bill—I care not what others do. I support it because I believe we are living in a changing world. . . . Unless we lay a foundation for that new world about which we speak so often, we are going to reap as we have sown, because of our indifference to the problems facing us."

Promising to support the bill, Mr. Green said: "I am not so sure that the objective sought might not be attained in other and more practicable ways, but that is now beside the point. The bill has been brought down; the government stands behind it and the House is faced with the acceptance or rejection of this measure."

The merits of family allowances are so obvious that there should be unanimity in the bill's adoption. As Mr. Diefenbaker said, it represents an endeavor to provide equal opportunity in life for those in the lower income brackets—surely an objective on which all should be agreed.

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