

stituency as well as myself I express the hope that he will meet with all the success that he and his party deserve in rebuilding their prestige in this country. At this time also I wish to express my own satisfaction and that of the people of my constituency at seeing the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning) back in the house with a measure of strength and health. All the people of Canada, and particularly those of the province from which he came, watched with fear and later with sympathy during his illness; are gratified that his strength is returning, and sincerely hope that he will be able to go about his duties, and that in the months and years to come his old activity and energy, which were so great, will be restored.

I have heard hon. members in this house divide the speech from the throne into three parts, just as Julius Caesar divided Gaul. I intend to divide my remarks into three parts also, and I shall deal first with some of the claims set forth by certain hon. gentlemen opposite, because I think in some instances they have been less than fair to the province from which they come and less than fair to the government in power in Canada to-day. If I present to them my view of the truth, I hope that they will not be unduly provoked but will themselves determine whether that view as I give it is a reasonable exposition of what might be called the truth.

First, I would refer to some remarks made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth), a gentleman whom I respect and whom I have known for a long time, but whose manner of showing up his own country and its institutions in the worst light is one that I cannot possibly commend. As reported at page 75 of *Hansard* of January 17, he read a letter from a school-teacher in Saskatchewan, and simply left it at that. This teacher made the statement that she received a cash salary of \$18 a month. I do not know whether that is true or not. The hon. gentleman gave no particulars of the district concerned, so that it is difficult to trace the statement and ascertain its accuracy or otherwise. I do know, however, that the people of Saskatchewan in recent years have taxed themselves, through the education tax, to such an extent that their government to-day is able to do with their money what in recent years was done with money advanced by this government. The grant from the provincial government to a school district such as that in which the lady in question teaches, if it is an organized district, is \$30 a month for a one-room school, and that alone would provide a higher salary.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Except that they do not get it.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): The hon. member for Weyburn (Mr. Douglas) and the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr (Mr. Coldwell) know that is not true.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Yes, it is.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): The hon. gentleman knows it is not true.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Most certainly it is.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): This is the truth: The government accounts now, as at all times, are paid, but not promptly on the dot because certain formalities have to be observed and some delays are unavoidable. But the money is absolutely paid, and I defy my hon. friend to say on a platform in Saskatchewan that the grants are not paid. They may not be paid on the last day of the school term, but he knows they are being paid.

Mr. COLDWELL: But the teachers are not getting their salaries; that is the difficulty.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): If any teachers are not getting their salaries, the remedy for that grievance is for the teacher to take the matter up with the parents, and the parents with the board. Anyone who defames the people of Saskatchewan adds insult to injury if he says that the people of that province care so little for education that they will not see to it that their boards pay the teachers at least up to the limit of the grant which is provided.

Mr. COLDWELL: My hon. friend will agree that coal and other essentials have to be provided out of the grant and that only one-half of the Saskatchewan education tax goes for education.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): I have no objection to the hon. members explaining, but the more they explain the deeper they get into the mire. In addition to the grant, raised from \$200 a year as it was under the friends of my hon. friend from Rosetown-Biggarr—

Mr. COLDWELL: Not my friends.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): They are not his friends? Why, my hon. friend was one of the midwives that brought forth the cooperative government in a Regina hotel some years ago.

Mr. COLDWELL: I rise to a point of order. I would ask the hon. gentleman to be accurate in his statements. The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) has good reason to know that the statement just made is not accurate.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): That is not a point of order.