

the Speech from the Throne. Judging from the honourable gentleman's point of view, I presume the Speech from the Throne must be all right; but I do not know that that is the case from anything which he has said.

There has been a great deal said about the war, and Heaven forbid that I should say anything about it myself. Now is the time for doing things. The Speech from the Throne covers exactly one hundred and thirty-nine lines—I took the trouble to count them—and sixty-seven of those are harping on the war, as if to let us know there has been a war, and that our boys have won imperishable fame. We all know that, and we all agree with that, but what we are anxious to know now is how we are going to get along in the future.

I will deal with the subjects mentioned in the Speech from the Throne in the order in which they come. After the war, the first thing we find is that we are going to do something for the boys who are returning. I say amen to that. These boys have come back from soldiering—soldiering indeed. Some of them would like this war to last forever; some of them say they have enjoyed it, and would like to see another war. To a certain extent they have lost a good deal of the steady habits of the ordinary business man. Many of them left good situations to go to the war. I do not blame the Government for it, but I hope that my voice may be heard by the employers of labour in this country. When a young fellow, especially an officer, presents himself and asks to be given something to do, he will be asked, "You have been to the war?" He will answer, "Yes," and will be asked, "For how long?" He will say, "Two or three or four years," and in many cases he will be told: "Well, you see just now we do not need anybody." Employers of labour must be patient with these men. They cannot be expected to turn right in to the ways of an office or an industrial establishment, and some indulgence should be granted to these boys who have sacrificed everything for the sake of defending these very employers.

The next item dealt with in the Speech from the Throne is the Franchise Act. All I need say with regard to that is that no one will deplore the abolition of the existing Act. We will all be pleased to see it disappear and will be glad to dance at its funeral. The proposed new Act has some nice things about it. It appears that the ladies are not only going to vote, but that they are going to be admitted to Parliament. I suppose they will be admitted to the

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN.

Senate. A well-known and important member of this House has expressed the view to me that the members of the Senate should have the selection of the ladies who are to sit here. I hope that this Bill admitting ladies to the Senate will be framed very carefully. I do not believe, for instance, it is right that there should be a monopoly in any one family, and I do not think that the wife of a man who is sitting here should be eligible, because, forsooth, if both of them got here and entered upon a discussion, where would our debates end? We would have to increase the number of reporters.

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: Are you speaking from experience?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Personal remarks are always taboo. Then, again, the Government is really taking an advantage in appointing ladies to the Senate. Suppose that the honourable gentleman who leads this House and myself were at a ball together courting a young lady, asking her for a waltz, and he promised her a senatorship, I would have to be a wallflower. Nobody will welcome the ladies more than I shall. I think it will be a grand thing to have them among us; but the Bill must be prepared so that there will be no undue influence in bringing the ladies to this House.

There is another item which deals with the construction of highways for which a Bill is promised. We will all say Amen to that. But what is the great remedy which the Government proposes? It is to lend money to the provinces, forsooth. Well, in Quebec, we need no money. The pure, good Government of the province of Quebec can borrow money at a lower rate than the Dominion Government has paid on some of its loans. This Government will perhaps lend money to those provinces who have been bankrupted and for whom we are going to pay millions—the province of British Columbia for which we have to pay \$40,000,000, the province of Alberta, the province of Saskatchewan, and the province of Manitoba. I think this is a bad thing, because a good province like our own will pay the money back, but the others will not, judging from past experience, because they have not done so in the case of the Canadian Northern.

Then there is immigration. Well, we have a special Minister of Immigration, and I should like to know what that department has been created for? Since it has been created, there have been no immigrants coming to the country, and ac-