

But I am equally sure that no man in Montreal had any chance to say to the Prime Minister anything whatever that we have all been talking about for the last few months. The Prime Minister told us of the amount of money he would have to get this year for interest, for pensions, (but carefully refrained from mentioning the National Railways,) for unemployment, etc., and then he went on to recite the cost of the different services, Parliament, immigration, police, national defence, justice, penitentiaries, and so on, and he asked if there was any man in the room who could tell him where the cost of these services could be reduced, - and everyone remained dumb.

I thought as I came away that after such an exhibition we should all shut our mouths about the extravagance of the government. I suppose it would have been considered very bad form for anyone to have taken up the challenge.

He has come and gone, spoken very acceptably, has told us nothing we did not know, hinted at certain things that might happen soon. And there you are.

I sat beside Sir Charles Gordon at dinner and in the course of conversation he told me that he and Beatty had lunch last Saturday in Ottawa with Bennett and Bill Herridge, so that Bill's hurried trip to Toronto or New York set for Friday night did not materialize.

Yours ever,