

reorganize the Cabinet. His Solicitor General is somewhat embarrassed, two other Ministers are under a cloud, his Minister of Finance is sick, the Minister of Justice has resigned, and the Postmaster General is incapacitated, or partly so. The Government is in a very difficult and delicate position, and I hold that the Prime Minister ought to turn back to page 11 of the Hansard of 1921 and refer to his own utterances there, and ponder in his own mind as to what is the proper and honourable course for him to pursue.

Hon. J. G. TURRIFF: Honourable gentlemen, in rising to discuss for a few moments the Speech from the Throne, I wish first of all to extend my congratulations to the mover (Hon. Mr. Pardee) and the seconder (Hon. Mr. Côté) of the Address. Those of us who sat for many years in the other House with the honourable the mover of the Address knew what to expect: we knew he would handle the subject with great skill and great ability. I am sure we all had great pleasure in hearing our latest addition to the Senate, the new member from Edmonton. I was pleased to hear him give a very lucid report regarding that great province of his, sunny Alberta, and am sure that he will prove a worthy successor to the late Senator Forget. In referring to the late Senator, I might say that those of you who saw him in recent years in this House, when he was incapacitated, could hardly realize the sort of man he really was. My honourable friend from Moose Jaw (Hon. J. H. Ross) and myself sat in the old Assembly in Regina some forty years ago, and we knew what he could and did accomplish. He was one of the finest men that I have ever met, and I am confident that his successor will prove worthy of the position which he now occupies.

The first item in the Speech from the Throne, as my honourable friend who has just taken his seat (Hon. Mr. Robertson) has said, refers in glowing language to the prosperity that exists on all sides. I think perhaps the Prime Minister painted that picture a little too brightly; perhaps he accentuated the prosperity too much. I think probably he was referring to the prosperity that is to come. At all events, he did not augment the Speech nearly so much as my honourable friend who has just taken his seat (Hon. Mr. Robertson), and my honourable friend, the leader on the other side of the House (Hon. Sir James Lougheed), who gave a pretty fair exposition of the case yesterday. They, however, have gone in the other direction and,

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON.

in my judgment, have painted a picture of blue ruin.

There is one thing I would like to point out to honourable gentlemen opposite. If the country is in such bad shape as my honourable friends claim, if there is such a lack of employment and such stagnation in the country that the manufacturers are not making any money, and are closing up, the situation is one that has come about under their own policy. From the time the present Government came into power, a little over two years ago, up to the last two months, they have practically carried out the policy of their predecessors. They have made no great change, and what has been the result? If the result has been as my honourable friends have depicted it, then it is because of the policy of high protection, and of the legislation that they brought in during their term of office.

My honourable friend the leader on the other side (Hon. Sir James Lougheed) spoke yesterday of what had been done in Great Britain and in the United States by way of reducing debt. He claimed that this Government had not done much. But I remember perfectly well, as every honourable member of this House remembers, that between the end of the war and the time when my honourable friends opposite went out of power they did not reduce the debt at all; on the contrary, they kept piling it up. The Government that is now in power continued in pretty much the same way, and the debt has been increased, but not to the same extent that it was increased during the previous three years. This being so, I do not think it is open to my honourable friends opposite to claim that nothing has been done by this Government.

However, honourable gentlemen, what pleases me is that the present Government has, I think, learned a lesson. I think they have learned that a Liberal Government cannot parade the country in Conservative clothes and meet with any great success. They have found that the popularity that carried them into power with a big majority two years ago is waning because they have not carried out certain things they promised to do. This was brought home to them very strongly last fall down in Halifax and in Kent. I believe, honourable gentlemen, that the loss of those two seats is the best thing that could have happened the Government. It wakened them up to the fact that they had not carried out their promises, that they were not giving a Liberal Government, and that they were losing the confidence of the people. But, to their