

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I at one time offered to bring down all that was prepared. I am still prepared to bring down the list, if he will accept it in that way. I have pressed on my colleagues the importance of having it here, and I still hope to have it early in the session. I think I have a return from all the departments but two. There are two delinquents yet. I suppose the hon. gentleman would prefer to wait until I can get the returns from those two departments.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I have no desire to unduly press the government. I am very sorry to hear that the return has become voluminous, or will be more voluminous now than it was at prorogation last session. The government have had seven months in which to prepare this return. I can easily understand why the return has not been completed, after the statement made by the hon. Secretary of State, that is, that the list is growing continually, which means that the government is continually dismissing officials, and that they are continually appointing commissions to investigate charges, or assumed charges, against the officials, in order to make room for others. If the hon. Secretary of State can say within any reasonable time this session—I mean before parliament rises, or a few weeks or a month.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT.—The hon. gentleman is quite aware, having been a member of the government, of the difficulty there is sometimes in getting those returns from some departments. Several departments have been overworked. I have written repeatedly to two or three departments which have been in arrears with these returns, pressing on them the necessity of it. I shall further press them, and hope to accomplish it within a reasonable time.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.—We shall wait a week or two.

The Senate adjourned.

## THE SENATE.

*Ottawa, Tuesday, 8th February, 1898.*

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

## THE ADDRESS.

DEBATE CONTINUED.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—In rising to address the House upon the subject of the Speech from the Throne, I take this the first opportunity of congratulating my hon. friend, the Minister of Justice, upon what I consider, from a party standpoint, the just promotion which he has received. He has been long in the political harness. It has been my good fortune to have known him since Confederation. We have battled, not together, but we have engaged in political warfare in opposition to each other for now over a quarter of a century; and I say this, and say it in all sincerity, that the longer I have known the hon. gentleman the higher opinion I have formed of him, and have no doubt he will perform the duties pertaining to his office in a manner that will be satisfactory at least to his own party, if not to the country generally. I must also be permitted to congratulate the hon. Secretary of State on the fact of having been for the second time relieved from the onerous duties of leader of the government in this House. He occupied the enviable position which I now occupy for some 17 or 18 years—as leader of the opposition. Whether he performed that duty to the satisfaction of his party can be best judged, from the fact that they have upon two occasions promoted those who have recently been brought into the Senate over his head to lead this House. However, I know that he will appreciate that kindness from the fact that he is relieved from the great responsibility which would otherwise rest upon his shoulders. Referring to the Address before the House, I think we might very properly comment upon what it does not contain rather than what is contained in it. I expected to see a reference to the Drummond County Railway, setting forth the fact that they had entered into an arrangement with that company, and that