

honourable senator from Lethbridge this evening. But the road in front of them is clear: if they want to do it there is no impediment. I do not think they can claim they have not a mandate. So I say to honourable gentlemen: "Go on! Pursue the course. Implement the doctrine you have preached all these years. Let us have Liberalism now in all its pristine power and glory. Let us find what the result will be, and let us in Canada govern ourselves by the practical consequences of the doctrines that honourable gentlemen have been driving in upon Parliament ever since we became members of either House." I do not see very much reference to them in this Speech from the Throne. I do not see very much of the doctrines expounded by the former member for Weyburn and the honourable senator from Lethbridge embodied in this Speech. I do not see much promise of positive action along that line. We have to be satisfied with investigation by commission, and the stopping of a mill in Sherbrooke.

With a view to safeguarding the interests of consumers a full inquiry will be instituted into representations which continue to be made respecting monopolistic control of the importation and distribution of anthracite coal.

I suppose we must be satisfied with that. We had one just a few months ago, but perhaps it is not too soon to have another. I do not think you can satiate the appetite of the Canadian people for probes and investigations if their appetites are correctly diagnosed by our Canadian press. Does the honourable gentleman know a single point in Canada where there is not some investigation going on now? Does any honourable member know any business that is not being probed, or any considerable section of society which is not under suspicion because of governmental probe? So the happy process goes on. One would think all these things could be cured by the immediate and wholesome application of those principles which we have heard and which honourable gentlemen are now as free as the air to put into effect.

Steps have already been taken with respect to the reorganization and consolidation of government services, which it is believed will further their efficiency and effect much needed economies.

I do not know just what that can mean unless it be the union of the Department of Marine and the Department of Railways under the appellation of the "Ministry of Transport." We shall hope for economies there, and shall be glad to have a return

brought down at the earliest possible date showing the amount of money saved.

The Speech refers to certain legislation with respect to railways:

You will be asked to consider amendments to existing legislation respecting the Canadian National Railways, which will serve to afford a greater measure of government authority and responsibility to Parliament.

These words also, no doubt, caused considerable perplexity in the minds of the Administration when they were drafted. The Government is eager to restore more governmental authority in respect of the Canadian National Railways. We in the Senate shall have to be guided by such facts as are revealed before our own committee. I am not certain that it has even been alleged that the railways have suffered because of too great a restriction of governmental control. I did not follow speeches of the campaign closely. I did not hear any of them, but I read the press with fair industry and I am unaware of any allegation that our railways have suffered because of a contraction of governmental control. I was surprised, therefore, when, speaking in Toronto a few months ago, the new Minister of Railways, for whom we all wish so well, foreshadowed the restoration to his department of control of our National Railways. It may be evidence can be adduced to convince us that it is going to be to the advantage of that great system to be brought back into the Railway Department, under whose auspices it wallowed in debt to the extent of scores of millions in years gone by. But such evidence, I should think, would need to be very convincing before there would be a reversal of policy in this direction. If the honourable gentleman who leads this House (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) will give an indication of what sufferings have resulted from the railway not being under the direction of the Department of Railways and Canals, or what the hurtful limitations have been which have prevented its growth and prosperity, it certainly will be welcomed.

It is the duty of this House to review carefully all legislation, especially legislation which affects in such vast figures the finances of our country, and to see that no backward step is taken, no matter how plausibly the program may be stated as clothed in the beautiful language of Liberal diplomacy.

When checking over the Speech for that reference I noticed also:

Transfer of the camps established for the care of single homeless men from the Department of National Defence to the Department of Labour is in process of being effected. Every effort will be made to close the camps alto-