

What can we do about the matter? First, there are the national selective service boards. How many agriculturists are given positions to advise the registrars as to what farmers' sons are needed on the farms, as to what farmers should be called and what farmers should not be called? In my own case the registrar is at Kingston, almost a hundred miles away from my community. How can he know whether John is a good agriculturist, turning in a good war effort on his farm, and Tom is not? I believe that was the reason for the action taken in the case I mentioned a short time ago, where the man made application for a six months' postponement and was refused. To-day a farmer may send his son or daughter into industry, into the army, or into the civil service. If the daughter enters the civil service she receives a cost of living bonus, and rightly; but dad does not. That daughter comes to Ottawa; she gets her meals in a restaurant, where there is supposed to be a price ceiling. Will any hon. member say that restaurants serve meals of the same quantity and quality to-day as they served before the price was fixed? Go up to our parliamentary restaurant and see; you will get one potato instead of two, and someone says that is not a good one either. The daughter receives a cost of living bonus, superannuation benefits, and all the rest of it; she sees the millions of dollars being spent on temporary buildings which are to be removed within six months after the war is over; she sees the billions of dollars being advanced to industry to speed up war production. Then she goes home on a visit to dad and mother and says, "What about you?"

I had intended to go into the question of finance, Mr. Speaker, because I believe the people of Canada are critical of the millions of dollars being spent on temporary buildings, on the construction of munitions plants, on the large increases to the already high salaries. I have every sympathy with civil servants in the low income brackets, who are paid \$60 or \$70 or \$75 a month and who must pay \$30 or \$35 for board; but even so, that is more than their father and mother are earning on the farm. As they see the vast industrial expansion; as their sons and daughters return home and tell them of the conditions under which they must live in Ottawa, it is a wonder there is not much more discontent. It is no marvel to me that the agriculturist, able as he is to see what is going on, should ask for parity and equality of treatment.

Mr. L. A. MUTCH (Winnipeg South): Mr. Speaker, I am not one of those who would [Mr. Boucher.]

let the seriousness of the hour or the seriousness of my own remarks deter me from those amenities of life which, even in troublesome times like these, may be more pleasant than they otherwise might be. For that reason I elect to begin in the traditional way by extending my compliments to the mover (Mr. Harris) and the seconder (Mr. Hallé) of the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I would be remiss if I did otherwise at this moment than address a remark to a personal friend of mine who has been done a most signal honour since this house last met. I refer to the present leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon). I mentioned to him before, and I should like to remind him again, that a signal honour has been done to him because there is the probability of his going down to posterity as the last leader of the once great Conservative party.

It will not be expected of me in this house at this time that I should attempt to make a political speech, neither will it be expected that I should fail to comment upon at least one event which took place in or near the constituency which I have the honour to represent. While I accept no responsibility for it, I was interested in what took place in the city of Winnipeg during the past few months when an honour was done to one of my most distinguished constituents in the person of the Hon. John Bracken when the late Conservative party surrendered to him at Winnipeg. The people of Winnipeg, and indeed the people of all Manitoba I think will join with me in a feeling of some natural pride that a man whom most of us have known at one time or another has been so signally honoured by an old and established—we thought it was established—political party. With respect to that I should like to make just one observation. I do not think I shall be misunderstood when I say that if the erstwhile Conservative party can do as much for John Bracken in the federal field as the Liberal party did for him in the provincial field, then he is one of the most fortunate men that Canada has produced.

I do not think I have ever made in this house anything approaching the nature of a constituency speech. There may be some difference of opinion about that, but in any event I do not think I ever did. For a little time to-night I propose to speak about, not only the constituency which I have the honour to represent but the city of Winnipeg and the province of Manitoba as a whole. We in Manitoba during the war have done a magnificent job. Thousands of our finest sons are