

than in the matter of fiscal policy. If he is proceeding to England with any idea of trying to influence the parties in Great Britain in the matter of this fiscal policy, his time would be very much better spent at home. If he expects to make a bargain counter out of the council table in Downing street, he will not get very far in serving the interest either of Canada or of the British Empire. I say he should tell us very plainly what his particular policies are going to be, and his attitude with respect to the questions which may come up at the imperial conference.

Now may I say again, Mr. Speaker, that we wish at this session to give him every latitude in carrying out the many promises he has made. We wish to make it possible for him to proceed to the imperial conference. I hope, if that should be necessary, he will consider very carefully whether it may not be possible to adjourn this parliament for the short time he is at the imperial conference, to reassemble after the conference is over, in order to afford a full discussion of the measures which will be brought down. So far as we are concerned we are prepared to stay here just as long as there is any work to be done which is likely to be of service in solving this question of unemployment and in meeting any grave situations which may exist in this country at the present time, but my hon. friend must not expect that the people of this country are going to be satisfied with any steam-roller process with respect to increases in the customs tariff. The people of this country are not going to permit him to use the imperial conference as a—

Mr. LAPOINTE: A smoke screen.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: —as a smoke screen, as my hon. friend suggests, to hide behind in order to get his tariff proposals put through in a hurry irrespective of what they may be. Whatever his proposals may be they will have to be judged upon their merits. We are prepared, as I have said, to do all we possibly can to expedite that discussion, but we must have, and the country will expect us to take, the time to analyse carefully the merits of the various proposals which may be presented.

May I say to my hon. friend in conclusion that we have done all that we possibly could do towards expediting the time at which these many promises of his might be carried into effect. We were anxious, once he had achieved victory, to have him assume the reins of office with as little delay as possible. We did not oppose any of his ministers when they were seeking to be re-

[Mr. King.]

turned, not even those ministers who had not a seat in this house. We offered no opposition to the present Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Stevens), who was defeated but who found another constituency in which to run; we offered no opposition to the present Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Rhodes), though he was not a candidate in the election. We have sought in every way to enable my hon. friend to meet this parliament at the earliest date possible, and with all the power he could command to carry out his obligations. He has said over and over again that he will carry out those many promises or perish in the attempt. May I say to him that from such a tragic end we on this side of the house will do what we can to spare him. We do not wish to see him perish in his efforts, but we do expect him, if he is unable to carry out his promises, to implement what he said to the Canadian people as to the course his government would then adopt; we expect him in that particular to do what he said he would do provided he and his government failed to meet the situation which he has in such large measure helped to create.

Again I say we will examine these various proposals on their merits; we will do what we can to expedite their consideration, particularly with respect to everything having reference to unemployment; we will cooperate to the utmost of our ability, but we intend to hold him to his promises or the consequences of their failure. We believe that is an obligation which the country expects of His Majesty's loyal opposition.

Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I regard it as a great honour and privilege to have the opportunity of congratulating the hon. gentlemen who moved and seconded the address in reply to the speech from the throne. It is a great satisfaction to all of us who are Canadians to have associated with us in government those from the old province of Quebec who have for so many years really believed in the principles of the Conservative party but who have found their minds diverted from an expression of opinion by the appeals made by my hon. friends opposite, appeals which were made in the closing days of the last campaign but which fortunately failed because of the intelligence of the electors of that province. Those who read Canadian history in the years to come and read the record of that campaign in its closing days and the appeals that were then made will not regard with any degree of satisfaction either the party or its leader. The mover (Mr. Turnbull) and the seconder (Mr. Gagnon) of the Address have

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