

hon. member for Vancouver (Mr. McInnes). After returning his thanks to the leader of the Government for at last recognizing the claims of his native province by calling upon him to move the reply to the Address, and after having put in an additional plea to that rather full recognition, that it might be well also to recognize the claim of that distant province to a portfolio in the present Cabinet, the hon. gentleman went on to give one very peculiar evidence of the effect of the National Policy and of the administration of the Liberal-Conservative Government during the last eighteen years. He said there were in that province, and in fact in all the provinces, evidences of a very great depression in the fact that numbers of people, many of them people of culture and refinement, were piling in applications for positions under the new Government, and to such a degree that the lives of the members, and particularly of the Cabinet Ministers, were becoming a burden unto themselves. Well, Sir, I give my hon. friend credit for originality in finding out one more evidence of the effect of the policy of the Liberal-Conservative party and Government. If he will allow me, I think I can find another cause to which to assign the circumstance, and belonging to another category. Sir, I should say that it was evidence of a wide and consuming hunger amongst the old adherents and life-long followers of the present Government, who, for eighteen years, have been in the cold shades of Opposition, yet looking longingly and regretfully at the public treasury, and the officers and employees who have been fulfilling the duties thereof, and drawing their salaries. It may also be looked upon as evidence of a full crib at which a Liberal hand was to stand ready and deal out to those old, tried and true, and cultured followers the little gifts and the large gifts that might come to hand, and which are for the time being at their disposal. But that it is evidence of a depression, I have not the least doubt, a depression which has long existed amongst the Liberal office-seekers, a depression which now settles upon the members of the Cabinet and members of the Liberal party who have recommendations to make, and a depression which will, by and by, settle upon nineteen-twentieths of the eager applicants for office, who will find that, even under Liberal rule, the crib is not sufficient to provide for them all. Yes, even the cultivated and the cultured are making their applications, for I notice that this depression manifests itself even amongst the old members and lately elected members to this House. We mourn the absence to-day of our genial, and talented, and cultured friend, the former member from Queen's (Mr. Forbes), who has had his longings satisfied and his desires met by being appointed to the office of a preventive employee at the munificent salary of \$100 a year. We mourn

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also the absence of an old, true and tried friend of the Liberal party, and a colleague of my own from the province of New Brunswick, who, after having for eighteen years followed the fortunes of the Liberal party, has at last had his longings satisfied and his desires met by being appointed to the munificently salaried position of postmaster of Marsh Hill, in the province of Ontario, at the salary of \$10 a year. These are, so to speak, the first fruits out of that long list of depressed office-seekers who have been wending their slow and tedious way towards the portals of the Government buildings at Ottawa during the last eighteen years, and many of whom are destined never to enjoy the benefits for which they have been longing. When the hon. gentleman who moved this Address was launching out in his aggressive and fiery way, a way which pleased my moderate friend who is now leader of the Government, I wondered whether this fiery zeal, and this hot manner of expression were products of the wild and free West, or whether they were cultivated under glass, so to speak. I diligently followed the tone of his remarks and the set of his phrases, until I got into a quandary between the two. I believed, from his language, that he had been sitting at the feet of some political Gamaliel, and I thought at first it must have been at the feet of my hon. friend from South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) when he coined the strong and well marked phrase of "hypocritical rot." But, by and by, when he commenced to talk of "the ungodly use of ungodly influences," I concluded that he had been sitting at the feet of my hon. friend from Queen's, P.E.I. (Mr. Davies), who used a somewhat similar expression in reference to the National Policy, and declared on one occasion in this House that it was "a system accursed of God and man." Well, Sir, I recommend my young friend, who did so well in his maiden effort, to avoid, as the "Globe" would say, the apostles and prophets of disaster, and confine himself to more moderate expressions, which, I think, would convey to the majority of his auditors a sense of greater power in the arguments which he may address to the House from time to time. I now come to the speech made by my hon. friend the leader of the Government, and I must say that the hon. leader's speech, his first ambitious speech after taking the reins of Government and meeting the high court of Parliament, did not impress me as being of a remarkably statesmanlike type. It seems to me that the hon. gentleman studiously avoided meeting every one of the positions, of the strong, moderate and well-fortified positions that were taken by my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition—positions that were made in no cavilling spirit, that were directed to no trifling objects, but which touched three or four points of the greatest import-