

of the address pointed out, Canada never in her history was in a condition of such unbounded prosperity, and her people never were so rich as at the present moment; and no person rejoices in that more than I do—

—and it is a good time to begin to contribute to the cost of the maintenance of the empire. Canada should support her own contingent, no matter what it costs. We suppose the arrangement of the British government supporting the Canadian contingent is based upon the precedent in the case of the East Indies, which furnishes troops, but does not pay for them after they leave India. But Canada is one of the nations of the empire, and in an altogether different position from India.

But, Sir, what does the *Globe* say? The *Globe* of January 9 of this year had a statement of what it expected the speech from the Throne to contain; and it was supposed by some people to be an inspired statement, but this turned out not to be the fact. In that statement the *Globe* said:

Provision for full payment by Canada of the contingents of Canadian troops sent to South Africa and some more definite determination of the measure of our responsibility for the defence of the empire.

Returning to the subject on January 13, and referring to a criticism by the *Star*, the *Globe* said:

In the programme in question only one new subject is touched upon—the contingents of Canadian troops sent to South Africa, and there we declare our opinion that parliament should bear the full cost of these contingents. That has been our position ever since it was decided to send out a contingent and will continue to be our position.

That is from the organ of the government in the province of Ontario. *Le Soleil*, the right hon. gentleman's own organ in the city of Quebec, on January 3, said:

It seems to us that Mr. Laurier should yield to the current and announce in the speech from the Throne that Canada will pay all the expenses of her soldiers.

The *Montreal Herald*, which is known to be one of the strongest supporters of the government in the province of Quebec, on January 12, said:

There is little question but that parliament will authorize the payment of the entire expenses of the contingents Canada has given to the empire.

And the *Free Press* of this city says:—

The likelihood is that the Canadian government will propose, in the speech from the Throne, to bear all the expense of the contingent, including their full pay while in South Africa. This can only be done by the sanction of parliament, but, as it is already being urged by Sir Charles Tupper, the scheme is certain of practically unanimous approval. This would bear but lightly on Canada from the fact that even after paying for the men already sent to

the Cape, the Finance Minister will have a surplus of several million dollars in his Budget speech. The plan is endorsed by the government's leading supporters.

I draw the attention of the hon. minister to that.

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the Chair.

AFTER RECESS.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I was just, Mr. Speaker, before recess, concluding an appeal to my right hon. friend and endeavouring to show him that, in accordance with the principle propounded by him in his speech at Sherbrooke, it was the duty of the government to comply, in questions of this kind, with the unqualified sentiment of the great body of the people, and that I had no doubt he would find that preponderance of sentiment his justification for adopting a policy which, in my judgment, the honour and interest of Canada alike demand, namely, that the expenses of the Canadian contingents should be borne by the people of Canada. I drew the attention of my right hon. friend to the fact that not only had he the press of the Liberal-Conservative party, but the press of the most leading and influential sections of the Liberal party urged the carrying out of that policy; and I have had myself the opportunity of ascertaining, by addressing great meetings of the electorate in almost all the provinces of the Dominion, that on that question all parties, Liberal and Conservative, all races and creeds, were entirely in unison. Therefore, I think it very worthy the consideration of my right hon. friend, that he should take such a course as will meet the approval of the great body of the people.

There is another evidence, and it is one of the most striking that possibly has perhaps ever been exhibited in Canada. I now refer to the various charitable associations, the various associations of the public throughout Canada, in connection with the patriotic fund, and I think that the House will agree with me that there has never been in the history of Canada anything approaching the unanimous sentiment of all parties and all classes in exhibiting a desire to spend their money in doing everything possible to promote the comfort of our volunteers who have gone to represent Canada in South Africa. There can be no stronger evidence perhaps than when the people of large means and people of moderate means and people of small means are all ready, as has been shown throughout Canada in every section of the country, to come to the front and give their money and support to the utmost extent of their ability in doing everything possible to show how thoroughly Canada appreciates the conduct of her brave volunteers in going to promote the honour of Canada and main-