

of their country. We desire to see everything possible done to assist those who have returned in finding their places in the life of the country once again.

The Speech from the Throne dealt with certain subjects; but I think the general criticism that can be made of it is that there were a number of omissions—on points to which the country would have expected the Government to refer in the Speech from the Throne at the present time. I shall deal with those points as I proceed; but for the moment I want to refer to a matter that was also touched upon by the mover and the seconder of the Address—an event which took place just after the close of last session. I refer to the change that was made in the Government, and also the change that was made by the Conservative party. Immediately after Parliament had prorogued the Government party met and for some reason or other thought it advisable to change the name of the party to what I think is an exceedingly long name for any party to adopt—"The National Liberal and Conservative Party." They chose as Premier and leader of their party a young man who is energetic and capable. He was accepted by the Governor General as the Premier of this country. So far as he has gone in laying down the policy of his Government and of the party which he now has the honour to lead, although this party is called National, Liberal, and Conservative, the policy is more nearly in line with the old policy of the Conservative party than with anything else that I have read about in the history of this country. I fail therefore to see the necessity of attaching to the party a long name of that kind, which will be too long for anybody to use in the future. I think we shall see them come down to what I believe to be their true position, in being known as the Conservative party. The action of the Premier in assuming the reins of office without appealing to the people for a confirmation of his procedure is, I think, one that is rather questionable. The best tradition of British parliamentary practice is that when a great party which happens to be in power at the time changes its leader, when he, as in this case, loses several of the former members of the Cabinet and takes in several new members, the Government appeals to the people for a confirmation of the policy on which they intend to administer the country's affairs. But apparently the Prime Minister and his friends did not consider their duty to be along this line, and so far they have not taken any action

to ascertain from the people of the country what is their opinion regarding the policy that the Government are pursuing; with the exception, of course, of certain by-elections which have been held and which some honourable gentlemen may interpret in one way and some in another. I do not intend—I do not think it is for honourable gentlemen in this Chamber—to express an opinion as to what the results of those elections may represent, but I think they indicate that the country itself may differ with the Government on the policy which they are pursuing.

The Speech from the Throne mentions the League of Nations. We know that Canada was represented at the meeting of the Assembly of the League. We know that the representatives of Canada at that meeting were energetic, and considerable attention was paid to certain things that they said there. But we have so far not heard any expression from the Government as to what the course of action of the League of Nations is and how far it may bear in any respect on the policy of Canada. Everyone, I think, must be desirous of seeing the League of Nations a success and that it should achieve a position in which it can enforce its policy and regulations on the various nations that comprise it. But we have had so far no statement showing what is the policy of the Government with regard to our action in connection with the Assembly, and I think that we ought to hear something from them along these lines. We must all wish that the League may be a success, and further, that our neighbors to the south, who have not yet taken any part in it, may soon see their way to come in and take the prominent part that a great nation such as they are should be able to take. We desire to see the peace of the world maintained, to the very great advantage of the whole world. The great danger that I see at the present time is that the unrest which to-day exists in Europe may lead to a further outbreak of trouble at no very distant date, and unfortunately there has been raised in the United States and discussed in the newspapers the question of armaments and the increase of naval forces, which may lead to a rivalry such as existed before the commencement of the war in 1914. I think it is a very serious matter that great powers like the United States and the British Empire should start any policy of rivalry of armaments, especially rivalry of naval armaments, as to which can build