

The Address—Mr. Irvine

with his Government, the constituents who have sent me here may know that their future will be better than their past.

• (4:10 p.m.)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Jack A. Irvine (London): I should like to add my congratulations to those which have already been extended to the Mover (Mr. Cashin) and the Seconder (Mr. Chrétien) of the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. I congratulate them not only on the manner in which they expressed themselves but on their sincerity of purpose. I would be remiss if I did not congratulate, too, the hon. Member for Westmorland (Mrs. Rideout) on her maiden speech. I thought it was an outstanding contribution. I think I echo the sentiments of everyone in this House when I say we all admired and respected her late husband and the great contribution he made to this Parliament.

I understand it is usual for a Speech from the Throne to be couched in vague generalities. It seems to me the particular example we have before us is no exception to the rule. It would be more sensible and a lot easier, I think, if we were to talk not so much about what it contains as about the things which are left out. I realize that these speeches are prepared by the Cabinet. I know, also, that these individuals, who should be among the "Blue Bloods" of our Canadian society, would not stoop so low as to be partisan. However, I am concerned about some of the things which are contained in the Speech and I am wondering whether it does not contain a considerable proportion of election or pre-election propaganda.

I have listed the main points of the Speech, some 31 in all. Out of these 31 major points I failed to find any which had not been mentioned previously, either in the Speech of a year ago or in the Speech of two years ago, with the exception of nine. So I am bound to say that this is a nine-point Speech from the Throne, not a Speech containing 31 points as one might be led to believe by lists published in different places.

About two years ago at this time of year during the Federal election campaign a great deal was said across this country regarding a scheme to offer 10,000 scholarships. I am particularly interested in this undertaking because we have in my riding in the City of London one of the finest universities in the Dominion of Canada. All those connected with the University of Western Ontario are interested in this program. We are wondering what happened to this program. Why was it swept

under the rug? Has there been another retreat on the part of hon. Members on the other side of the House? Is this another of the many election promises which have been broken? Was the Student Loan Fund considered sufficient to look after this need. As I say, we are all very interested in knowing exactly what happened to these 10,000 scholarships.

One thing which interested me a good deal in the Speech from the Throne was the paragraph on the formation of a Company of Young Canadians—I am quoting the actual words used. I do not know where this idea came from but I have begun to wonder whether it was not shoved in at the last moment. We know that the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) was visiting with the President of the United States over the past week end. Was this the source of the Right Hon. Gentleman's inspiration, or was it merely an afterthought? It may be that the idea is a good one but I believe that Canadians, as befitting the people of a nation which has grown in stature, should surely come up with their own ideas or at least with their own phraseology.

I know we are all proud of the friendship we have with the great nation immediately South of us. We are proud that for 150 years we have lived together in peace and harmony. The border between us, an almost invisible border not guarded by guns or forts, has not separated our two peoples. Rather, we have been drawn close together almost as one great race on the North American continent. This is a record which I know is regarded with envy by many of the free nations throughout the world today and possibly by a number of nations which are not so free.

With regard to the youth movement to which the Speech from the Throne refers, we cannot help but look back 25 or 30 years and think of the great youth movement which Hitler established in Germany as a means of brainwashing children and bringing them up in accordance with the way of life which the people in power at that time wanted them to follow. There was a similar movement in Italy. Let us hope that this will be something on an entirely different plane and in an entirely different league.

I should like to direct the attention of the House to an article which appeared in the London *Free Press*, one of the largest newspapers in the Province of Ontario. This newspaper has a very large circulation and employs some 700 people. The article to which I refer appeared in that paper on March 13,