

*The Address—Mr. Mackenzie King*

in Ontario—he made the statement in the east—and I found, for example, that the London Free Press, which is a good Conservative organ, with a special friend of the hon. gentleman editing its reports, had omitted the words “I promise to end unemployment.” It simply stated:

Mr. King promises you conferences. I promise you action. He promises consideration of the problem of unemployment. Which plan do you like the best?

I thought possibly there had been a misquotation so I took the trouble to consult other publications and I found in the Ottawa Journal, in a “special” to that journal of July 11 from Moncton, the following:

Mr. King promises you conferences; I promise you action. He promises consideration of the problem of unemployment; I promise to end unemployment. Which plan do you like best?

Then in the Halifax Herald, the statement being made in the near vicinity, in the Canadian Press report by Mr Thomas Green, who accompanied my hon. friend in his campaign, there appears under the headline “Moncton, N.B., July 10” the following:

“I promise you action,” the opposition chieftain declared at one stage. “He promised you consideration of the problem of unemployment. I promise to end unemployment. Which plan do you like?”

Now I say to my hon. friend that this is the promise to which the country intends to hold him. The Moncton Transcript of July 11, the newspaper in the community where the speech was made, says:

Mr. King promises you conferences. I promise you action. He promises you consideration of the problem of unemployment. I promise to end unemployment.

Speaking a little later at Quebec, my hon. friend said:

Ottawa Citizen, July 14:

There was no necessity for a conference on unemployment, he continued. The solution was too apparent. “What you want is work,” he exclaimed, “not conferences, and you are going to get work.” Unless his promises to the people of Canada were kept if elected to office, Mr. Bennett said he wanted Quebec and other members of his party to vote him out of office.

That was a heroic attitude to assume.

“I do not want place and power over broken promises,” Mr. Bennett exclaimed.

Here is something still more noteworthy:

“I want place and power to serve my fellow-Canadians.”

“Let us not be deceived,” he said at one stage, “let us get to grips with our problems. Let us have action and not words.”

Mr. King has said, the opposition leader declared, that he, Mr. Bennett, was wrong in calling parliament unless he had some con-

[Mr. King.]

stitutional proposals to submit to parliament. “Well,” he exclaimed, “I have well considered proposals to submit to parliament; otherwise I would not have said I would call a special session after July 28, if elected, to deal with unemployment. We propose to anticipate many of the national undertakings we have to perform in order that men may get work, not promises, wages not charity.”

Having in mind what my hon. friend has said in promising to end unemployment, may I direct the attention of hon. members to the words which appear in the speech from the throne:

The necessity for dealing with exceptional economic conditions with the resultant unemployment has induced me to summon you at an earlier date than would otherwise be necessary. Measures will be submitted for your consideration, including amendments to the Customs Act and the customs tariff which it is anticipated will do much to meet the unusual conditions which now prevail.

That is not the pledge which was made by the Prime Minister of to-day to the people of Canada during the last election; that is not the pledge that he gave, by virtue of which he sits in office to-day. He is fond of speaking of the great betrayal. I do not know what construction should be placed upon that particular clause which he has put into the lips of His Excellency. Certainly it is not implementing his promise to end unemployment. The press supporting my hon. friend are drawing attention to the fact that the speech from the throne is the shortest on record. I hope they will notice that the list of promises of my hon. friend are the longest on record.

At Montreal, on June 28, he said:

Parliament would be summoned to deal with what was much beyond a municipal problem, beyond a provincial problem, but was a national problem. It might be necessary to anticipate great national undertakings so as to provide work.

Then at Renfrew on July 16:

Ottawa Morning Journal, July 18:

“There is no excuse for unemployment in our country,” he said. “There is no excuse for poverty. We have the people and the resources. We have the capital, but capital will not allow itself to be used unless there is stability and certainty. It must not be wiped out by factories being closed down by unfair competition from abroad.”

At Cornwall, on June 27, he said:

London Advertiser, June 28:

We propose at the first session of parliament to effect such legislation as will give Canadians fair opportunity in competition with any country in the world.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Just see if my hon. friends will applaud this sentence: