

is about to commence. It is always about to commence but it has not commenced. Tomorrow or the day after peradventure we shall indeed engage them, if the day be not stormy or the signs unpropitious. Peradventure we may be able to increase our paper money five or six times over what it now is and enable the fortifications of Vancouver island to be erected.

An hon. MEMBER: How about the guns?

Mr. BENNETT: An hon. gentleman wants to know about the guns. I commend to him that poem of Kipling's about the guns. When he has read that he probably will have a clear understanding.

I see no possibility of this government initiating anything that looks toward the amelioration of the condition of the people. They are content to say that all you have to do is to establish foreign trade, and supplant the representatives of the Department of Trade and Commerce by those of the Department of Agriculture. That is all there is to be done; when that is done all is accomplished. Now, Mr. Speaker, we have to do something more than that. We have to establish security and confidence. What happened to your loan in London the other day? What happened to it?

Mr. DUNNING: Does my right hon. friend want to know?

Mr. BENNETT: Well, he reads, and he is familiar with the method by which these matters are dealt with. The underwriters took forty-nine per cent of it, and large blocks were taken off the market to prevent its going to a larger discount than it did. You have to compare the 3½ per cent loan offered by this dominion with the 3½ offered by Australia.

Mr. DUNNING: Does my right hon. friend mean to say that there is less confidence in London in Canadian loans than in Australian?

Mr. BENNETT: I mean to say that there is less confidence in this Canadian loan than there was in the Australian loan.

Mr. DUNNING: My right hon. friend cannot possibly have the facts.

Mr. BENNETT: The underwriters did not get forty-nine per cent of the Australian loan, and they did of this.

Mr. DUNNING: No, no.

Mr. HANSON: Oh, oh.

Mr. BENNETT: The great financier from Skeena will be well advised to confine himself to something he knows. That is all that may be said with respect to that.

Mr. DUNNING: I shall have an opportunity to give the facts on some future occasion.

Mr. BENNETT: There is no difficulty about the facts; I am familiar with them.

Mr. Speaker, I desire to move an amendment to the address:

We desire respectfully to express regret that the speech from the throne does not indicate that the government has taken or contemplates taking efficient measures to deal with unfavourable economic conditions in Canada, and that no legislative action is proposed to deal effectively with the prevailing uncertainty and insecurity resulting from the inadequate incomes of large numbers of our people.

The real truth is that today, despite what may be said with respect to prosperity, the average incomes of the people of this country are wholly inadequate to maintain decent life and the amenities of life in their homes. Let the government explain why it is that the incomes of the people of this country are wholly inadequate to supply their wants; the unemployed, the hundreds of thousands on relief. Let us hear the adequate explanation. Then will begin, I am sure, that great struggle, so long hoped for, of the giant against the money power, by which it is to be shaken to its very foundations and torn asunder, so that peace and good will will reign amongst the sons of men.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I desire to extend my heartiest congratulations to the mover and the seconder of the motion for an address to his excellency in reply to the speech from the throne. Both hon. members were known to us before their entrance into this house. We knew them as gentlemen who had each played an important part in the affairs of his own province. The hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Francœur) was for many years a member of the Quebec legislature. He was for a time Minister of Public Works in the Quebec government, and, for nine years, Speaker of the legislative assembly. Those of us who had the pleasure of listening to him this afternoon will agree that his experience and attainments in political affairs and in his chosen profession were amply reflected in the eloquent and able address which he delivered.

My hon. friend from Renfrew North (Mr. Warren), as we know, played an active part in municipal affairs, having served as reeve of his township and for many years as a