

March or later before the United States would be able to say definitely what they were going to be able to do. At any rate the Prime Minister will hardly say that a reciprocal agreement with the United States has not been a part of the Liberal policy at all times. If there is in the offing the negotiation of an agreement with the United States with respect to reciprocal trade with Canada, it is all the more reason why the people of this country should be given the opportunity immediately of saying who they wish to negotiate that treaty, whether they wish it to be negotiated by a party that defeated reciprocity when a reciprocal agreement had been arrived at, now many years ago, or whether they want it negotiated by a party which was prepared to sacrifice, and did sacrifice, its political life in order to obtain a larger measure of freedom in trade between these two countries. I am reminded of the cry with which we were met when the Liberal party negotiated that agreement; it was that there should be no truck or trade with the Yankees. Now my right hon. friend, who was perhaps loudest in his objections to the reciprocal agreement, is the one who says he is negotiating with the United States.

What is the next paragraph in the speech from the throne?

You will be invited to enact measures designed to safeguard the consumer and primary producer against unfair trading practices and to regulate, in the public interest, concentrations in production and distribution.

Where did the Prime Minister get that idea? I find under the heading Liberation of Internal Trade, among the policies laid down as those of the Liberal party, the following:

The Liberal party will seek to end artificial price control, and agreements in restraint of trade. Price fixing by agreements restrict and hamper trade internally. The internal trade of our country has become honeycombed and enmeshed by secret understandings and agreements.

There, in other words, as in the other instances I have cited, is a more comprehensive statement than is embodied in what I have just read from the speech from the throne.

Then what is next? The speech says:

You will be invited also to enact measures to provide the investing public with means to protect itself against exploitation.

What did we say a couple of years ago, in specific words, in our statement of policy with regard to the control of investments?

The Liberal party believes the financial mismanagement of industry is largely responsible for many conditions obtaining to-day.

To prevent exploitation of the public through the sale of watered stock and worthless securi-

ties, it believes an investment control board should be established, with supervision of issues of securities by companies incorporated under federal charters.

Yet on top of all this the Prime Minister says the Liberal party has no policy.

Now may I come to another reference. After speaking of the government's renewed determination to make use of the agencies of conciliation and cooperation provided by the League of Nations, the speech from the throne continues:

It will be the object of my government to support this policy and to work towards the progressive reduction of armaments and the stabilization of international economic relations.

Just to show that his is not the only party favourable to the League of Nations and policies advanced by the League let me read what appears under International Relations in the statement of the position of the Liberal party.

The Liberal party will seek to further wherever possible those courses in international relations which make for peace and good-will among nations, and promote friendly intercourse between them. It will seek to further the work of the League of Nations.

I have read from statements that appear in the speech from the throne, the whole of the program of social reform, as it is put forth there by the Prime Minister, and which are the most important of the measures he is bringing before the house this session. Naturally if these measures are at all in accord with what we had in mind in our statement of policy, they will receive very sympathetic consideration from this side of the house, but may I say that some things are wholly wanting in the declarations which appear in the speech from the throne. Their omission in any statement of policy by the Prime Minister is just about as significant as is their inclusion in the Liberal statement of policy. In the one case it means that the government opposite intend to do nothing, whereas in the other case it means that a Liberal administration stands in addition for these things as part of its policy. I have read only one part of the statement of the Liberal position with regard to trade. Let me read the whole statement as it is set forth, and remember that these are policies for which the Liberal party stands, for which it has stood in the past, and which it will put in force if it is returned to office. I might add they are all policies which have received the unanimous endorsement of the entire Liberal parliamentary party, and in addition the unanimous endorsement of the National Liberal Federation which represents the Liberal party as organized in associations and clubs throughout the country.