

believes that the Government has gone as far as it ought to go in the direction of inaugurating such prohibition as is provided for, if it is to be effective in dealing with the trade. To those who hold that one sweep of the hand would dispose of it, this of course the bill does not go far enough. From the standpoint of the temperance man, who wishes to see legislation so soon as, and no sooner than, he believes it can be effective, this bill, in the opinion of a great many, goes as far as it is practicable to go. These are the three views that have come to me from the country, from gentlemen of good standing, from the press of both parties, and from the independent press; so I stand up to-day with greater confidence in moving the second reading than when I moved its first reading.

Some Weighty Opinions.

I was able, on moving the first reading, to prepare the House with opinions of leading men in the Church and State as to the powers by which a prohibitory liquor law would be effective. We have heard a second time from these men and from the great multitudes outside of those, I do not exactly say "the man on the street," but this many thousands whose minds are not keyed up to the same note as either of the extremists, and who believe we have asked the House to agree to a bill which, if it becomes law, and is subsequently approved by the people, can be made effective for the purpose for which it is intended, and no other bill should be passed by this House. (Ministerial applause). Let me refer briefly to a quotation from the *Montreal Witness*, a paper that has supported prohibition for thirty years or more, through good and evil report. The quotation, which is from an editorial upon the liquor bill and the referendum, is as follows:—"Looking at the thing apart from our strong desire to see a prohibitory law passed, and in the character of a judge seeking abstract right, we could not see that it would have been easy to find a better way of fixing what would be a substantial majority of the voters than the one chosen by Mr. Ross. We concluded that, apart from predilections, the sense of the community would be that it was fair, and we therefore resolved to accept it heartily. There is one course which we cannot too often urge on our readers. Most of them are prohibitionists, and have been, like ourselves, working for a prohibition law all our lives. We have, perhaps, been at too close quarters in the fight for this definite aim to keep