

nada is one of the highest claims they have to-day to the confidence of the mass of the people. Sir, what about the Yukon Bill? On that Bill, as the right hon. gentleman knows right well, his Government stands equally condemned by what has subsequently taken place. What has taken place since the House last met? I shall not go into the whole story, because the hour is too late, but he knows that the Minister of Public Works sent one of his ablest officers, Mr. Coste, over the Stikeen route and over the Bennett Lake and White Pass, and what has been the result? Why, his own officer has condemned the Stikeen river route altogether, and declared that under existing circumstances, Dawson City can be reached from Victoria in seven or eight days. Therefore, so far as these measures are concerned, the Senate of Canada enjoys the proud position of knowing that at a most important time, when millions of public property, untold millions almost of public property were at stake, they stepped into the breach and protected the people of this country against measures that are denounced by the Government's own officers, and against a Government which, if it dared to dissolve the House and appeal to the country on these iniquitous measures, would have been wiped out of existence. Yet, the rejection of these measures is the ground now taken for attacking the Senate of Canada.

I must apologize to the House and my right hon. friend opposite for having occupied their time at such length, but I must throw the responsibility on these gentlemen, who have so mismanaged the public affairs of this country as to demand this too lengthy criticism at my hands.