

The Address—Mr. Smith (Cumberland)

under the present act and treat the ex-service men fairly. They are certainly entitled to the generous consideration of this Parliament.

In passing on we notice also, Mr. Speaker—I was going to say with some degree of resentment but perhaps I should say disappointment—that there was not contained in the speech from the throne mention of a scheme for an entirely federal old age pension scheme. This matter has been brought up in the house time and time again. The case, so far as the smaller and older provinces are concerned, has been put before this parliament on numerous occasions but I do not think that the discrimination as to the cost in percentage of revenue has been before the house. I am going to take the liberty of quoting the percentages of cost of the old age pension scheme in relation to revenue as between the different provinces of the Dominion in order to show the discrimination. The following is the percentage of cost of the old age pension scheme in relation to the revenue of the different provinces:

	Per cent
Prince Edward Island..	35
Nova Scotia..	21
New Brunswick..	18
Quebec..	14
Ontario..	10
Manitoba..	4
Saskatchewan..	3
Alberta..	2
British Columbia..	2

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is quite evident that when one province has to pay 2 per cent and another 35 per cent of its total yearly revenue there is something unfair in the present old age pension scheme. It is true that we hope the readjustment of the subsidy question and other sources of revenue anticipated down in the eastern portion of Canada will enable us in the near future to put this scheme into effect, but it cannot be put into effect until the revenue is larger either through increased subsidies or new sources of revenue which may come. However, it does seem that we in one of the oldest provinces of the Dominion should not have to rely on hopes to give the people something of which we are all in favour, something which they are entitled to and which they are now denied, while that privilege is being enjoyed by people in other parts of Canada, simply because those provinces are in a happier financial position than we are in the smaller provinces. We are disappointed that some reference has not been made to that matter in the speech from the throne. We had hoped the government this year would have seen fit to announce that a federal old age pension scheme would be placed on the statute books.

[Mr. R. K. Smith.]

I regret that no reference was made with respect to the \$2 per ton rate on coal, which has been advocated during the last two or three years, for the movement of coal from Nova Scotia to central Canada. We did not hesitate to agree with the government when they gave the province of Alberta a rate of \$6.75 per ton on the movement of their coal from Alberta to Ontario, but, as the hon. member for Pictou (Mr. Cantley) has pointed out time and time again in this house, had we been given a corresponding rate on Nova Scotia coal we could be moving coal from certain portions of the province of Nova Scotia, Cumberland county, for instance, for as low as \$1.80 per ton. We regret that the speech from the throne did not contain some reference to this appeal.

We also expected some relief would be given to the dairy interests of the Dominion, and particularly of the province of Nova Scotia, which is suffering from the tremendous importation of New Zealand butter. I do not intend to read the resolutions passed at meetings of the Nova Scotia Farmers' Association and the Nova Scotia Dairymen's Association, copies of which were sent to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell) and the federal members for the province of Nova Scotia, urging the government to abrogate the portion of the treaty with Australia which extended to New Zealand the privilege of sending their butter into this country under special preferential rates, dumping it on our market and placing Canadian dairy farmers in a hopeless position so far as competition is concerned. The figures for last year, show that upward of 35,000,000 pounds of New Zealand butter entered this country, and if the figures for the first portion of this year are any criterion, that importation will be much larger for 1930. The government have taken no action in this connection and we regret that no mention was made of it in the speech from the throne.

We hoped that some reference would be contained in the speech from the throne as to the proprietary interest of the maritime provinces in the western lands, and last, but not least, we hoped that we would be given our full representation by being allowed the extra member to which we are entitled under the last redistribution.

Mr. HARRY J. BARBER (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to follow other hon. members in extending congratulations to the mover (Mr. Gray) and seconder (Mr. Dupuis) of this address on the very able manner in which they have performed their duties. The