

by the Liberal party, and reducing, rather than increasing tariffs. That is one of the matters in which we will be very much interested when we come to study the agreements made with Great Britain. It will be interesting to note whether the government despite all the warnings it has received intends to adopt the same mistaken policies my right hon. friend has had in mind right along and has been putting into force ever since he assumed office.

Hon. gentlemen opposite may well feel that they have had a very good lesson in South Huron and that they should take it to heart. Perhaps my right hon. friend will recall that during the time of the South African war when the British forces were meeting with serious reverses and the public were becoming impatient, Mr. Rudyard Kipling felt he might do some good if he came out boldly and told the government of the country what people were thinking in regard to the way events were turning. He published a poem called *The Lesson*, and I should like to give one verse to my right hon. friend and to his colleagues. I think it may be helpful to them; they should take it very much to heart. I am not so sure that it could not be applied also to the country generally, after having taken my right hon. friend at his word in the last general election and accepted all his pledges. Here is what Kipling said:

Let us admit it fairly, as a business people should,

We have had no end of a lesson: it will do us no end of good.

Not on a single issue, or in one direction or twain,

But conclusively, comprehensively, and several times and again,

Were all our most holy illusions knocked higher than Gilderoy's kite.

We have had a jolly good lesson, and it serves us jolly well right!

My right hon. friend and his colleagues should, I think, thank me for drawing their attention to the significance of South Huron in this way.

Mr. MANION: Why not apply it to Athabaska and Three Rivers?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The reason I do not apply it to Athabaska is that in Athabaska the Conservative candidate was returned by less than one third of the votes.

Having regard to the failure of the government's policies, particularly having regard to what appears in the speech from the throne, and even more to what does not appear there, I feel that some expression should be given at this time to the general disappointment that will be experienced throughout Canada

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

that there has been no clear indication in the speech from the throne of a change of heart on the part of the government, and particularly that there is nothing which can lend the slightest ray of hope or encouragement to the unemployed, and also that the government has sought to postpone consideration of the important question of banking, currency and credit, which is being so much discussed in all parts of Canada today. I am therefore going to move this amendment which I think comes in appropriately at this stage, though I may wish to say a word about the conference afterwards.

I would move, seconded by Hon. Mr. Motherwell, that the following be added to the address to His Excellency:

Whilst reserving any expression of view upon the merits of the agreements concluded at the recent Imperial conference, this house is of the opinion that the tariff policies of the present administration have seriously injured the trade of Canada and have intensified the economic depression, and that the government has wholly failed to afford a remedy for unemployment and agricultural distress as pledged by the Prime Minister.

The house regrets that, except the dole, the government has no policy with respect to the relief of unemployment.

It also deplores the government's obvious endeavour, by postponing the revision of the Bank Act, to avoid consideration by parliament of the all important subjects of banking, credit and currency.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before you put the amendment I wish to say just a few words before I conclude in regard to the recent Imperial economic conference and the agreements as they may be when brought to our attention. I have taken care, in the amendment which I have moved at this stage, to indicate that the amendment has reference to the government's policies, apart altogether from what may have taken place at the economic conference. In that I am adopting the attitude which the Liberal party has adopted from the outset towards the conference and the government's endeavour to deal with intra-imperial questions. Obviously it is not possible to say very much at this stage about the agreements, because, as I have already pointed out, while the government knows what is in them, hon. members of the House of Commons generally do not know. We have not the agreements before us, and until we have them in their entirety, we cannot say what their real meaning and significance may be. But they have been published in part, and it is possible to make some reference to certain features of them.

Let me say first that I think the conference, when we come to discuss it in detail, will be