

clares that economy in all public expenditures continues to be a necessity. That course we are admonished to follow, that rule is set up for us to adhere to. What more do we want? I apprehend it would hardly do for His Excellency to intrude into our private lives and tell us what we should do there; he was instructing parliament. My platform is a little broader than his. I want economy to begin right in my own household, and then to permeate this whole great country of ours, permeate public and private bodies, permeate every enterprise and every interest; and when that time comes I believe that the clouds that lower upon our horizon will be buried in the deep bosom of the ocean.

That is all I care to say, but I think I have made myself clear as to the position some of us occupy upon this matter. But we are not going to be unanimous—some voting one way and some voting another. I do not propose to cast a vote that will dissolve this House unless I mean it. Suppose a vote on the second amendment had the effect of dissolving parliament, as I infer it would from the excellent speech of the Minister of Finance, what does it mean? What would we be going to the country on? On something as to which we are all agreed—that is that we want economy—and what good could result? I think the hon. gentleman would be well advised to withdraw his amendment.

Mr. H. A. STEWART (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I must apologize, as a comparatively new member, for intruding myself into this debate at this late hour. However, I shall endeavour to be brief, and I have to a large extent condensed what I proposed to say on this occasion. I feel some embarrassment in speaking as a new arrival and I entertain a greater sense of responsibility in discussing such matters as we are considering at this time.

I wish to join with the other speakers who have extended their congratulations to the mover and seconder of the Address, and to associate myself with the congratulations that have been extended to the new leader of the Progressive party. I would also extend a warm word of welcome to the new members to this House, and express the hope that they will all take the active, intelligent interest in the proceedings which the older members have taken.

In the Speech, His Excellency has been pleased to refer to the pleasure which he has derived from his extended tour through Canada, and the many courtesies he has re-

ceived at the hands of the Canadian people. We are very grateful indeed that Their Excellencies have taken such a kindly interest in our welfare, and that they are making themselves so familiar with all parts of the country. We would recognize in the office of the Governor General one of the bonds of Empire, and we are sure that so long as the occupants of that high office display the same intelligent, active interest in our affairs, as the present incumbent and his predecessors have done, they will continue to receive our expressions of appreciation and gratitude. We wish Lord and Lady Byng success and happiness in their continued visit with us.

Some extended reference was made by one hon. gentleman who has spoken to the Near East question. I rather thought that he gave it more attention, perhaps, than it deserved. Some of the cablegrams exchanged with the British government were read, and a summary of others given, by the Prime Minister. I think it is perfectly clear to all that the British Empire was not preparing for war, that the British authorities were endeavouring to bring about peace in the Near East. Yet the hon. gentleman to whom I have referred, approached this matter as if the British government were endeavouring to launch a new war. Quite the opposite was the intention. I am sure nothing could have been more calculated to prevent war than the knowledge that all parts of the great Empire stood together united for the same purpose. I am sure that the answer which went from Canada did not make for peace, that it was very disappointing to the British authorities, and to many people in Canada itself. I am likewise sure that a prompt cablegram assuring the Imperial authorities that we, with the other portions of the British dominions, were united with the Mother Country would have had a very good effect indeed. In short, a cablegram of that nature, promptly sent, would have been better than a contingent despatched months afterwards.

I think, Sir, it is very fortunate indeed for all concerned that this crisis has passed, but it is no more fortunate for anyone than for the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) and the government of his country.

The Speech from the Throne has referred to an increase in our commerce. It is true it is not very substantial, but it is a step in the right direction. It is encouraging and it is satisfactory to us on this side of the House to know that that increase in our commerce was accomplished without any change in the fiscal policies which had been pursued by the predecessors of this government.