

fit in so easily with those of the Liberal Party. I desire to remind him that before the farmers of the West formed themselves into a separate party their leaders were mostly in the Liberal Party. In fact, the sole representative of the Progressive Party in this Chamber, the honourable gentleman from Assiniboia (Hon. Mr. Turriff), sat for a number of Parliaments in the other House as a Liberal. I know that the Progressives were the advanced wing of the Liberal Party in economic matters, and the Liberal Party had to consider the views of that wing of the party. The history explaining the motive actuating the advanced Liberals of the West in forming a distinct Progressive Party has not been written, but I have a strong impression that that movement received considerable impetus when they found that the East had denied them reciprocity in natural products at the election of 1911. I confess that I should have felt quite dissatisfied if I had been an agriculturist, after the egotistic stand taken by the industrial producers; and I have already in this Chamber expressed the view that it was the reaction from the stand taken by the manufacturers in the election of 1911 that gave strength to the Progressive organization. After twenty years the Progressives still remain the advanced wing of the Liberal Party, and it is no surprise that they have shown some sympathy for Liberalism. They could hardly be claimed by my friends opposite as their allies. One group is the antipodes of the other.

If I rose simply to answer the criticisms of my honourable friend on the other side, my task would be an easy one indeed, because I can think of only the last question raised by him, that relating to the Australian-New Zealand Treaty, as being a criticism of the policy of this Government. It is true that he suggested that the Speech from the Throne might have given a clearer idea of the legislation that will come before this Parliament during the present session, but if he will look at the Speech from the Throne he will find there a program as large and important as was ever submitted to this Parliament.

Of course, a number of items mentioned or discussed in the Speech from the Throne refer to performances of the Government during the last twelve months. It is not amiss that Parliament should be informed of what has been accomplished by its executive during the preceding year. As to what will be submitted to this Parliament, he will find that the program embraces legislation "respecting the several railway properties formerly privately owned and now embraced in the Canadian National Railway System." My

honourable friend knows how complicated the question is, and how difficult is the solution to be found. This is one of the items that will engage our attention during this session.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: My objection to that is that it does not indicate, in any way whatever, what they contemplate.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Well, this document may be quite voluminous if all the various railways that have been absorbed are to be dealt with. Parliament will also be called upon to consent to the agreements made with Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

My honourable friend has referred to the Pensions Act. Again he will find from the Speech from the Throne that that matter will be brought before this Parliament in the form of a Bill, which is a somewhat technical one.

Then there is the statement in the Speech that "the report of the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the existing situation with respect to radio broadcasting in Canada" will be presented to Parliament, and I am under the impression that it will come in the form of a Bill. My honourable friend is aware of the report of that Commission.

A Bill will also be presented "for the consolidation of the Canada Grain Act, in accordance with the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the House of Commons on Agriculture at the last session." Is this not sufficiently definite?

The next statement concerns the signing of the optional clause respecting the Permanent Court of International Justice. There again there will need to be a resolution ratifying the signature of Canada to that optional clause.

My honourable friend will also find that the Government intends bringing before Parliament amendments to the Elections Act, the Bankruptcy Act, the Companies Act, and the Criminal Code. No detail is given as to those bills, which involve a number of technical questions.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: They are hardy annuals.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: They are hardy annuals, some of more importance than others. It seems to me that the Government has fairly brought before Parliament a general declaration of the program for this session. I wish to refer briefly to the signing of the optional clause, which is a most important step bringing us nearer to permanent peace. The matters in dispute between the peoples can be divided generally into two classes; the issues that are called justici-