

realize that the appointment is being made because of His Excellency's exceptional abilities as an administrator, his qualities of heart and mind, his great career in the public service, the part already played by him in India as Governor of Bombay and Madras, and the manner in which he carried out the duties of the high office of representative of His Majesty in this Dominion. We in Canada who cherish constitutional self-government and who wish to see it developed to the full in all parts of the British Empire feel that it is fortunate for India that His Excellency Lord Willingdon, has been chosen as viceroy of that country. We believe that at this critical time in the affairs of India no better choice could have been made for the high and responsible position of king's representative in that part of the empire. I am sure I speak in the name of all parties and all classes in our country when I say that Lord Willingdon in entering upon this great responsibility carries with him the heartfelt good wishes, the hopes and the prayers of the Canadian people.

I shall come at once to the address which has been presented by His Excellency the Administrator. It falls into five subdivisions which are easily distinguishable. The first subdivision relates to economic conditions throughout the world and in Canada; the second to the legislation passed at the last session; the third to the Imperial conference and the Imperial economic conference which met last year in London; the fourth to certain legislative enactments since the last special session, and the fifth—taking a corresponding proportion of the whole address—to the proposed legislative program of this session.

I will comment briefly upon these different divisions. The first, which relates to the economic condition of the world and of Canada, is partly in the nature of a sermon and partly in the nature of a diagnosis. How good a sermon and how good a diagnosis will depend upon the meaning to be ascribed to certain of the phrases in that part of the address. I am assuming that the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) has put into the lips of His Excellency the Administrator the phrases which appear here, and I am therefore in no way reflecting upon the Administrator in commenting on the wording of the address. With this in mind, I wish to draw the attention of the House to one or two passages in the address. As I said before, how good a sermon it is will depend upon the meaning to be attached to certain phrases appearing therein. For example, referring to

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

economic conditions the address contains this paragraph:

It will be your privilege to consider certain measures designed by my ministers to ameliorate existing conditions, to provide further means by which our people may go forward to achieve a prosperity heretofore unattained and to furnish them with all possible safeguards against a recurrence of the present subordination to world forces.

What is meant by "subordination to world forces"? Does the Prime Minister intend that to mean that Canada is to be put in a position of isolation, a position so completely self-contained as to exclude trade with other countries so that no matter what happens in other parts of the world Canada will not be affected thereby? When we consider the policies which he has presented to this country and which he intended further to present to parliament, there is reason to believe that he believes he can make of Canada a self-contained, non-trading country. During this session we will have to consider very carefully, assuming that such an end could be reached, whether it would be in the interests of this country, either immediately or in the long run.

In another portion of the address my right hon. friend speaks of the gulf which has to be bridged between conditions as they are at the present time and conditions as he hopes they will be in the course of time. As regards the conditions existing to-day in Canada, I think we all recognize the fact that a very large gulf will have to be bridged if Canada is to be started on the way to prosperity, but whether or not that gulf will be bridged successfully will depend very much upon the policies of the administration. I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that if hon. gentlemen opposite continue to put into effect the policies which thus far they have tried to put into effect, then the gulf will come more and more to resemble the gulf between Dives and Lazarus, on the one side, we will have the rich becoming richer, and on the other, the poor becoming poorer, to the great detriment of the future well-being of our country.

My right hon. friend goes on to say in the speech from the throne that many of our problems arise out of world conditions. It is interesting to notice the stress that hon. gentlemen opposite are putting to-day upon world conditions. They are contending that the situation in Canada is to be expected, that it is a natural result of world influences and that world conditions are affecting this Dominion. We did not hear that kind of statement from the lips of the present Prime Minister or other of his supporters when they