

taking an office of emolument other than the one which I have mentioned. Now, as I say the counsellor, the guide and the moral force of the liberal party vacated his seat in this chamber for that higher position of the governorship which he at present adorns in defiance of liberal professions, I simply point out this fact to illustrate what I have mentioned, that there is such a thing as inconsistency in the liberal party and that their professions made while out of office are somewhat different to their acts after accession to office. Allusion has been made to some of the remarks of the Minister of Public Works during the recess in reference to reform of the Senate. This, of course, has been a favourite topic with the liberal party for some time past, and I note that they are taking a practical advantage of the situation to carry out that reform. The present Minister of Public Works made use of the rather embellished language during the recess that the members of this Hon. body were scarcely worth sufficient rope to hang them. I notice that this reform is going on in the way of appointing liberals to Senate vacancies, the mover of the address is one of the gentlemen assisting the reform, and the seconder is another gentleman who has been introduced to carry out the reformation indicated. The chief feature of the reform is that when a sufficient number of gentlemen of the liberal persuasion are introduced into this chamber to reach the party equilibrium or go a little beyond the balance of political leaning, the reform will be successfully carried out, and we shall hear very little more about the reformation of the Senate. I congratulate the mover and seconder of the address for the manner in which they have discharged the duties imposed upon them. I would point out to the mover of the address that he was rather in error in the statement which he had made in regard to the unquestionable prosperity of this country under the present administration. My hon. friend made a statement as follows :

We have evidence on every hand that Canada today is prosperous. No man in this country willing to work need go idle.

I happened to glance through a very reputable journal this morning and found in it the following telegram from Toronto :

TORONTO, Feb. 10.—Five hundred of the army of unemployed assembled at the City Hall yesterday,

and listened to addresses from various members of the rank and file. A sight of the wretchedness of these men was one that would appeal to those disposed to be philanthropic. Mayor Shaw addressed the crowd, and assured the men that he sympathized with them in their distress, but could not undertake to give them work just at present. He held out hopes of employment before long. Citizen Atwood made a vigorous speech in which he complained about the bad condition of affairs and the great need of the unemployed.

I simply direct the attention of my hon. friend who moved the address to this little item so that he may not abate the alacrity with which he and his friends are now engaged in proclaiming the prosperity of the country, because if they become indifferent in declaring the prosperity of the country the distress which I have read about might possibly become somewhat greater. My hon. friend will pardon me if I thus disabused the impression made in his mind, and which found expression in his speech on the address. The hon. gentleman who seconded the address seems to have fallen into a somewhat similar mistaken notion of affairs in regard to the making of the Fielding loan mentioned in the address. I find that hon. gentleman under the impression that the loan was floated at par at a $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent rate. Allusion is made in the address to the fact that the loan placed by Mr. Fielding on the London market was very satisfactorily placed, indicating that there was very great reason for congratulation and satisfaction at the excellent price realized for our bonds. The address reads as follows on that subject :

The loan recently effected has shown that the credit of Canada has never stood so high in European markets, and affords reasonable ground for expecting that the burdens of the people will, in the near future, be materially reduced by the substitution of a much lower rate of interest on our indebtedness than that which now exists.

Of course, the statement that this loan has been satisfactorily placed involves the fact, no doubt, which hon. gentlemen do not lose sight of, that it became necessary for the liberal party, after coming into office to borrow no less than \$15,000,000. Those gentlemen had been in office fifteen months when it became necessary for them to send the Finance Minister to London. I do not say that the finances of this country had run behind to that extent, but it is well known that the deficit amounted to some two or three millions of dollars when Mr. Fielding went home to London, and upon an examination of the finances we find that the expenditure had very materially increased. These gentlemen who never