

the Throne. If anything so far-reaching was contemplated by the ministry, or any member of the ministry, at the time the speech was prepared, His Excellency should have been so advised by His ministers, and Parliament and the country so informed through the address of His Excellency. It is only in this way that honourable members can prepare themselves adequately to discharge the duties for which they are sent to Parliament by the people, and it is only in this way that public opinion can be properly formed and the will of the people ascertained with respect to the several measures it is proposed to enact into law. In the last analysis all government, to be free, must be government by consent, which means government in accordance with the popular will, and any act of an administration which ignores this fact is destructive of the very spirit of our constitution, and of the liberties it is meant to preserve.

This House has a right to expect that the programme of legislation as announced in the address, meagre as it is, is all that the Government intends to bring forward at the present session. If such is not likely to be the case, I would respectfully ask the Right Honourable the Acting Prime Minister that he notify Parliament at the earliest possible moment of any additional legislation that is probable or contemplated.