

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH  
FROM THE THRONE—*Con.*

*McCoig, A. B.* (Kent West)—389.

Denies that discrimination was shown in the selection of officers, 390. Complains of no shell contracts being given to Chatham, 391. I believe the member for Carleton rendered a great service not only to this Parliament but also to the agriculturists of Canada in placing before this House the charges he made with regard to the contracts in his own province, 392. Interests of the farmers from a legislative point of view discussed, 394-5. Horse buying in Ontario referred to, 396-8.

*McCurdy, F. B.* (Shelburne and Queens), 398.

Mr. D. D. McKenzie's speech criticised, 398-402.

*McKenzie, D. D.* (Cape Breton North and Victoria)—303.

I wish to follow for a little some of the points made by the Minister of Militia in the order in which he made them, 304-10. Let me say a few words in a general way as to the general administration of the country, 311. I wish to say a little in regard to the partyism which has been rampant in this country since the Conservatives came into power in 1911, and to point out that, in so far as my part of the country is concerned, this Government has been to us a disappointment, 312-13.

*Marcil, Hon. Charles* (Bonaventure)—467.

The war referred to, 467. Object in speaking is principally to repel aspersions cast upon Quebec, 477-82. Bilingual school question referred to, and the French race in Canada defended, 482-91.

*Meighen, Hon. Arthur* (Solicitor General)—115.

I shall not undertake to comment as a member of the Government, on much of what the hon. member has said with regard to the conduct and equipment of the forces of Canada. An answer, in so far as an answer can be given to the specific complaint he makes, having regard to Imperial interests, can be better made by some member of the Administration more closely in touch with our military forces, 115. But when the hon. gentleman complains that we should have insisted, upon the British Government commandeering vessels under their control for the purpose of carrying grain, so as to be consistent with our design in getting them to commandeer vessels for the carrying of munitions, he fails to observe that there is a very clear distinction between the carriage of Canadian grain and the carriage of British Government munitions, 116. There is no country on the face of the globe at the present time that is not compelled, under the conditions which obtain, to pay exorbitant transportation rates, 117. It is impossible to shut our eyes to the truth; that doubtless a part of the increased rate is paid by the consumer himself. The conditions that obtain in the trade are complicated, they vary from day to day,

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and it is only putting it moderately to say that without any question whatever a large share is paid by the consumer in European countries. I am afraid it would be impossible with any deference to truth at all, to say that the hon. member for St. John had conducted himself in Parliament with any regard whatever to the tremendous and appalling character of the events that overhang this country, 118. I am going to endeavour to expose to the House the artifices to which the hon. gentlemen descended, and the devices which he adopted in order to secure what he thought was a party advantage, and I shall ask the House whether, in the exercise of these arts and devices, he conducted himself in a manner befitting an hon. member of this House in these times, 119. We divorced the shell committee from the Canadian Government in the matter of responsibility; we made them a committee of the Imperial authority. I am not here to say whether they did wrong throughout or whether they did right throughout; they are answerable to the Imperial authorities for what they did, 120. I stated that I would have something to say about the devices adopted by the hon. member for St. John, 121-9. I wish now, Sir, to refer to another subject, and one with which I am confident I can deal without long engaging the attention of the House. Certain references were made by the hon. member for St. John to what is now popularly named the Davidson Commission, a commission appointed under the Inquiries Act to investigate the letting of war contracts, 129-137.

*Murphy, Hon. Charles* (Russell)—156.

It is eminently fitting that at the opening of another war session we should reaffirm our determination to consecrate with renewed energy all the moral and material resources of this country to the task of securing victory for the cause in defence of which so many thousands of our brave fellow countrymen have already laid down their lives, 156. Refers to the Premier's visit to England expressing disappointment at the information given as to his invitation to attend a meeting of the British Coalition Government, 157-8. Thinks an investigation should be held on war expenditures and quotes newspaper extracts in support, 158-167. Reference made to Solicitor General's speech, 167-71.

*Oliver, Hon. Frank* (Edmonton)—99.

I did not desire to deal with the question of supply of munitions to the British Government by the manufacturers of Canada. It was not my purpose in rising to address the House to deal with that question, and I do not go any further now than merely to say, that accusations of disloyalty against those who are sent here for the purpose of guarding the interests of the public because they ask in a most respectful way for information for the benefit of the public in regard to