was, in fact, full of temptations, and offered a premium to dishonesty. Voluntary assignments he was glad to find abolished in this bill. Only by the consent or act of the creditors could a party go into bankruptcy. Creditors have prompt, full and absolute control over the estates; and honest debtors will get their discharge even although they pay less than one-third of their unsecured debts, if they show that through no fault of their own they have suddenly become insolvent, and make a full and complete assignment and a truthful account of their affairs. He mentioned some objections—matters of detail—which could be considered in Committee.

HON. MR. CARRALL would heartily support the second reading of the bill. He believed in the advantages of a general bankruptcy law, and the first speech he made in this House was on the occasion of the introduction of such a bill as the present. He was not quite clear about the classification of people in the list of those who might become bankrupts. If bankruptcy was such a luxury we ought to extend it universally to all the people of the Dominion.

HON. MR. WARK took exception to the position laid down by the hon. member from Cumberland that it was in the interest of debtors to become bankrupt, and that they had nothing to lose by doing so. If so, then we must assume that any man may go into business without any capital of his own. If a man went into business without property he would have to be a man of very high character. He thought the general principle of such a law was established beyond a doubt. The mother country had had such a law for one hundred and fifty years, which had been often amended but never repealed.

HON. MR. MACFARLANE said the general impression of the people throughout the country was that we required a bankrupt law. Without such a law as this it would be impossible for trade and commerce to be carried on. As far as he had been able to look into the present law it was not only a great improvement on the old law, but was one which, when carried into operation, would be productive of much benefit to the people of this country. Some of the clauses might be improved in Committee, but he could give his hearty concurrence to the general principle of the bill.

HON. MR. DEVER said, after defeating the Government so completely a few minutes ago, he felt it to be his duty to compliment them on the introduction of this measure, which he had read somewhat carefully, and believed it to be in many respects superior to the old Act. He would also say he was sorry to have so soon to differ with his. hon. and highly esteemed legal friend from Nova Scotia (Mr. Dickey) on the principle of insolvency. In his (Mr. Dever's) experience he had found the principle of insolvency a good one. It gave the unfortunate and honest debtor, who, by some misfortune, was unable to meet his whole indebtedness, a chance to see his creditors, and give them all he had equally, instead of, as under the old system of execution, letting or giving one creditor all and the others nothing, while the poor unfortunate debtor was frightened from making succeeding attempts to retrieve his lost business and possible wealth—fearing the unsatisfied claims of his late creditors might come down on him ere he was able to meet them. It was true a great deal of what his hon. friend from Nova Scotia had said was perfectly true. Debtors were too apt to consider it no shame to plunder and waste property of their creditors, and then seek relief by such a bill as this, and come out better off than they should be at the expense of their creditors. He trusted though this Act would not enable such conduct to go unpunished—even the creditor did not get much—and he was now prepared to give it his support in Committee of the Whole.

The motion for the second reading was carried, after which the House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill.—Hon. Mr. Bellerose in the chair.

The Committee passed the first eight clauses, after which it rose, and obtained permission to sit again to-morrow.

Several bills were received from the House of Commons and advanced a stage.

The House adjourned at half-past eleven o'clock, P.M.