

some little resource on the part of the Government, and there are a great many people who, however brave a show my right hon. friend may make about this depression not being very serious, are of the opinion that dreadnoughts at the present moment are not so important as the cost of living, and who are coming to the conclusion that in a country of boundless resources it is unfortunate to have a Government of very limited resources. I am bound to say that in that view they will be largely borne out by the Address, and by the speech of my right hon. friend in regard to the high cost of living. But hon. gentlemen opposite not only tell us about the boundless resources of the country; they tell us also that they have appointed a commission. I went down to Halifax the other night and said we had a government of dissolving views, not of strong convictions and settled policy, and we certainly have a government of dissolving views in regard to the matter of commissions. In the first session of Parliament they brought forward a Bill to establish a tariff commission, and one of the horrible misdeeds of the Senate is that they are said to have destroyed the tariff commission. They did nothing of the sort; they put in an amendment which would make the commission look after the interests of the consumer as well as the interests of the producer, and the Government would not accept the amendment, thereby showing that they were tied to the producing interests and cared nothing about the consumer. Where does the condemnation of the Senate come in? My right hon. friend says of that most experienced member of this Administration who went down to Lanark and used the language quoted by my right hon. friend this afternoon, that he is now on the sea, coming back from England. Well, personally, that does not strike an extraordinary amount of terror into my heart; I only wish he were here now. I would like to have asked him what he meant by his language in South Lanark, especially when it is considered in relation to other language used in regard to this very tariff commission. We have not forgotten how at the end of the first session, with finger outstretched and voice upraised, he charged my right hon. friend with having opposed the mandate of the country to appoint a tariff commission, and one would have thought he were going to carry the fiery cross through Canada. When you have a government that means business in regard to an upper chamber, then that business will be done. When Mr. George's budget

was thrown out by the House of Lords, he did not hesitate about what he should do with that body—he went to the people, and for the life of me, in regard to the Naval Bill, I cannot see why my right hon. friend should not follow that example, if he feels as courageous as he seems to be. For the life of me I cannot see what my right hon. friend's quarrel with the Senate is on the Naval Bill. I did not wish to speak about this; I said so at the end of last session, but if my right hon. friend persists in charging the Senate with these things, we must see where the blame really lies. My right hon. friend came home from Europe after being there the summer before last, and, I think, on three occasions he said: 'I have consulted the Admiralty, as I said I would; I will lay my proposals before Parliament.' He did that, as he said he would, but he also said: 'If they are not accepted by Parliament, I will submit them to the people.' Now, in regard to the Naval Bill the Senate only said: 'Very well, submit it to the people.' Where is the quarrel between my right hon. friend and the Senate? That is another case of our having no fear of where the people stand once they know the cold facts in the matter. However, speaking of the tariff commission, my hon. friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce excommunicated my right hon. friend with bell, book and candle because the Senate had destroyed the Tariff Commission Bill in opposition to the mandate of the people. But he himself is the best justification of the action of the Senate, because, having heard from the people of South Bruce, he goes to the people of South Lanark and says: 'The Lord knows we have far too many commissions; they are as plentiful as the berries in Kazuabazua.' That is one of the places, I suppose, where the hon. gentleman has been seeking a market. And then he goes to England, and, after he has expressed this opinion to the people of South Lanark, the Government straightway appoints another commission. If that is not a case of dissolving views, I never saw one. The real emergency to-day is, as I think my right hon. friend has said, not a question of dreadnoughts. The German scare never was a real emergency; it was a sham emergency, and the high cost of living is the real emergency which confronts the people of this country. I do not propose keeping the House very long, and I certainly do not purpose making a budget speech upon the Address. I think that would be a highly inconvenient method of conducting public discussion in this Par-