

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

not in accord with government in regard to certain charges made not stamped with hall mark of accuracy. G.T.P. assented to changes. Terminals at Quebec will be ready when railway is completed. Delays have arisen out of incidents connected with Quebec bridge, under administration of previous government. Station at Champlain market soon to be under construction. Shop at St. Malo commenced. Steps taken for construction of dry-dock. The cry of hard times and high cost of living raised. Paragraph from speech from the Throne in 1908 quoted, 29. Slight restriction in business not to be seriously regarded. The check is only for the moment. The example of Britain followed in selection of commission to inquire into increase in cost of living. Men of experience and ability chosen from Civil Service. Speeches of leader of opposition at Hamilton on 26th November and at Montreal on 9th December not in accord with amendment to address, 30. Quotes from prof. Skelton's General Economic History of the Dominion. Many causes given for high cost of living. All may have contributed. Increase not restricted to recent years. From 1896 to 1911 the cost of living increased every year except 1907. If due to the tariff why was it that no step was taken to apply a remedy in 14 years? Reduction of abolition of duties on food had little or no effect upon prices in United States, 31. If prices in United States are so much higher than in Canada how can relief come by going there? The markets of the world are governed by international conditions and demands. Obvious deduction from Hamilton speech would be to place an export duty on cattle, sheep, hogs and meats. If tariff bars were thrown down the trusts and combines of the United States would be detrimental in Canada as in the United States. Difficulty not wholly due to decreased production. Statistics given showing that standard of living has increased and consumption of many articles of food increased. Remedy is to give every reasonable encouragement and assistance to increase the number of people on the land, assist the farmer with good roads as proposed in the Highways Bill. Aid him with instruction in improved methods of production. Promote co-operation among producers and consumers and find more effective and cheaper methods of marketing. Government will act upon these lines, 32. Reasonable protection advocated. Quotations from Premiers of provinces given as to prosperity of country, 33-34. Countries in the world in which conditions of non-employment are very much worse than in Canada. Quotes from the Daily Iron Trade giving number of un-employed in United States. Not correct to say there were no un-employed in Canada from 1897 up to 1914. Conditions in part of 1907 and 1908 as severe as at present time, 34. Every reason to believe that recovery of business will begin when

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spring opens. The government will do their duty by the people of Canada. Amendment proposed is a want of confidence motion and should be rejected by an over-whelming majority, 35.

Broder, A. (Dundas)—177.

Whenever Great Britain has a serious rival upon the sea we have an emergency. If we are to keep the people on the land we must improve rural conditions and the Highways Bill would be a great factor in this regard, 177. They tell us there is a stringency in this country, but the people, outside of cities and towns were never better off. Because the farmer is getting a little more for his produce the leader of the Opposition says we must stop this, we must put him on the free list, 178. It is quite right that any tariff should have a degree of permanence about it, but conditions change and the tariff must change to suit the conditions. Free wheat referred to, 179. Dairy statistics and our trade in butter and other products. The government should endeavour to show the people of Canada the possibilities of 100 acres of land, 180. Montreal Star quoted as to trade statistics, 181.

Buchanan, W. A. (Medicine Hat)—304.

This measure will be an inestimable advantage to the farmers of the Western provinces. The demand is general and represents the unanimous sentiment of the people of Western Canada. The West is a country with untold riches, but we must have our people there living under conditions satisfactory to them, 304. The people want more transportation, a general reduction in the tariff and lower freight rates, 305.

Burnham, J. H. (Peterborough West)—46.

Joins in congratulations to mover and seconder of address. Universal testimony of Provincial Prime Ministers that Canada is exceedingly prosperous must be relied upon. Naval or imperial policy of Conservative party first of all springs from desire to remain within British empire. Who wants to embark upon a great military policy such as the Liberal policy is? Position of government incomparably strong compared with anything else devised or suggested, 46. Canada is becoming very materialistic. There is talk about food, high cost of living and the tango. We are now confronted with a vicious paradox. Over-supply produces scarcity; over-production produces starvation, and surplus of material produces stringency. No branch of industry could thrive if it were not given proper attention and we are reproached for failing to know all about conditions of industry in Canada. Yet we were denied a commission which would find out these things, 47. Useless to say that free trade is a buttress against high cost of living. Not a question between free trade and