

by the supreme sacrifice made by nearly 60,000 of our brave sons. The responsibility is with us to maintain it.

Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion for an Address in reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General.

Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that the opening paragraph of the speech from the Throne, as well as the burden of the remarks of the hon. members who have just spoken, should have reference in large part to the assembling of this Parliament in its new home. It would be strange, indeed, if, under the spell of the noble and dignified proportions of this chamber, we were not all impressed with the spirit of the Canadian people in rising out of the difficulties of the past and impressed with the future greatness of our country, if we are but willing to put our hands to the task and make the future all that it lies within the possibilities of our people to make it.

It is no mere formality, Sir, to have the privilege at this time of congratulating the mover and the seconder of the Address on the excellence of their speeches. I am sure that all of us who have heard them believe they have made the most of the occasion and of the opportunity afforded to them. If there has been any limitation in the nature of their remarks, that has been due, one must say, to the meagreness of the legislative programme which the Government has presented in the words which it has put into the lips of His Excellency in the Speech from the Throne. Listening to the hon. gentlemen, I could not help remarking how each of them seemed to regard himself as a prop beneath a crumbling edifice. They made a reference or two to some features of the Speech from the Throne, but for the most part they took care to "get out from under" it altogether. The hon. member for Pictou (Mr. McGregor) went entirely into the past; he confined his remarks to giving the House very interesting and valuable statistics on matters of trade, on matters of manufacture, on assistance to the returned soldiers, on munition output, on trade with the United States and trade with the Mother country. He took care, as I have said, to confine his remarks almost exclusively to the past and to give the House a mass of statistics for which I am sure we shall all be very grateful.

On the other hand, the hon. member for London (Mr. Cronyn), who moved the Ad-

dress in such eloquent, witty and poetic language, went to the other extreme, confining his remarks for the most part to the future, in a constructive and helpful way telling the Government wherein he thought they had been remiss in excluding from the Address practically everything in the nature of constructive legislation. I am sure we on this side of the House will all congratulate my hon. friend that he has been the first to draw the attention of the Government to this omission which will be noticed throughout the country, and, though doubtless not so intended, the remarks of both hon. gentlemen on the Address are a reflection upon the Government in what they have put into the speech of His Excellency to present to this Parliament at this time.

If one examines the speech from the Throne, one cannot help being struck at the outset with the fact that His Excellency's advisers appear to be infinitely more concerned with external affairs than with the business of this country. Omitting the opening section to which I have just referred, let us take the other paragraphs in the speech from the Throne and see what they include. First, there is a reference to the League of Nations, to commissions and mandatories. Then there are references to the Treaty with Bulgaria and to other possible treaties with Hungary and Turkey. The next is a reference to a conference in Washington, and next a reference to the confusion and uncertainty arising out of conditions affecting the League of Nations. There is a passing reference to Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, and then comes another reference to the European economic field. The next section deals with confusion and dislocation again, and then we come to the International Opium Convention, and finally we are reduced to two tiny concluding paragraphs which contain all in the way of constructive legislation which the Government has to offer to the country at this time.

I could not but be struck the other day, with the President of the Council (Mr. Rowell), being the first to present a document to this Parliament, and at his laying upon the table of the House a copy of the Treaty between the Allied and Associated Governments and Bulgaria. We are all interested in Bulgaria, but I could not help thinking that it would have been more in accord with the wishes of the Canadian people if the first document to be presented to this Parliament had been for the pur-