

understood to be a leading member of the new party and who has expressed his intention to vote for the amendment. However, the hon. member is sufficiently generous to accord a meed of praise to the right hon. the leader of the Government. At page 177 of unrevised Hansard he says:

I do not quite see the force of all the speech of my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) in supporting this amendment. Naturally, the speech partook of the nature of what I have ventured to call a preamble. Amongst other things he charged the Government with having no policy.

Further on he says:

I did not, however, quite understand how my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition could be so light-hearted in charging the Government with having no policy, unless indeed he had gone on to tell what his own policy was.

The member for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Levi Thomson) at page 189, adds his tribute of praise to the Prime Minister and expresses regret at his absence. He says:

I am willing to give the Government credit for everything it has done, especially during the war, and am not inclined to condemn it for all its acts since the war terminated, because I recognize it has had to deal with exceedingly complex problems. The Government is now treading new and unbroken ground and its position is very difficult, very much more difficult than any previous Government in Canada has had to face.

These are the tributes of respect and appreciation that are accorded to the Government by the members of the third party, who intend to vote with the leader of the Opposition on the proposed amendment.

I should like to refer for a moment to the speech of the hon. member for Cape Breton North and Victoria (Mr. McKenzie). As he delivered his speech he seemed to be light-hearted—in the very best of humour. It was a very moderate speech—moderate for him. It abounded in generalities. After listening to him and subsequently reading his speech I said to myself: 'Surely this is a very light performance for an hon. gentleman who occupied such an important position in the councils of his party, although now somewhat degraded from the high office that he held a year ago. I would go further; I would be disposed to regard his speech as a collection of political puerilities. I do not think that many sentences in it were worthy of being embalmed in Hansard. I noticed particularly that the hon. gentleman did not indulge in so many scriptural quotations as was his wont some time ago. I think he might, had he searched the scriptures, have found something that would fit

[Mr. McIsaac.]

right into his position at the present time. He might have found something like this: "Every one that exalteth himself shall be humbled." He might have found other texts that would be equally applicable. Although the hon. gentleman seemed so light and airy when he was delivering his remarkable speech, perhaps he was not in as good spirits as he would like to have us understand or believe. Perhaps in the secrecy of his chamber he was lamenting in sackcloth and ashes and quoting those words of the great dramatist which were put in the mouth of a really great man: "Farewell, a long farewell to all my greatness!" After listening to his speech I could easily understand why it was that, if I may be permitted to paraphrase the words of the wizard of the North,—

—from his feeble hand

Fell the borrowed truncheon of command.

There are several other matters to which I might refer, Mr. Speaker, but the night is somewhat advanced and I do not desire to trespass any further upon the patience of the House. I may say, in conclusion,—although it is, perhaps, not necessary for me to say it—that it will afford me great pleasure to vote against the amendment submitted by the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. WALTER DAVY COWAN (Regina): Mr. Speaker, at this late hour, I promise you, my remarks will be very brief. I intend to vote against the amendment submitted by the leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie King), and to support the motion for the adoption of the address in reply to the speech from the Throne. I offer no excuse whatever for the course that I intend to pursue, in fact, I would have to offer an excuse to myself if I did not take that course. Why should I vote to turn the Government out of office?

The member for Fort William (Mr. Manion) made a statement this afternoon which was sufficiently important to be noted throughout the whole of the country. He said that no charge of corruption had been levelled against the present Government. In our section of the country, Mr. Speaker, the people demand ability on the part of their representatives and strict attention to business; but above all they demand honour, honesty and integrity, and these are things that we have found in the present Government. I have given some attention to political matters in days gone by, and I cannot recall an election fought at any time in connection with which charges of some kind were not made against the party in