

*The Address—Mr. Low*

the opening of the session, and the hope that he would be fully recovered and able to be here soon. I also want to congratulate the Prime Minister and the government at this time on the appearance of the order paper and the number of matters that are already indicated as coming up for discussion. The number of government notices of motions on the order paper would indicate that we should have no real excuse for not making good progress this session. I think it was a good plan to get this much government business before the house at this early stage, and I hope we will be able to cut down the multiplicity of debates and make it possible for us to get the business of the country done with something like reasonable dispatch.

I could not help thinking, however, while the leader of the C.C.F. party was speaking, of something the Prime Minister said in Saskatchewan some years ago when he was trying to persuade the people of that province to vote Liberal. If I am informed correctly he said, "You must remember that the C.C.F.'ers are only Liberals in a hurry". I listened today to the recounting of a speech made by the Prime Minister last September in which he indicated some things which made me believe that I am quite correct in deducing that if the C.C.F.'ers are Liberals in a hurry, then certainly the Liberals are socialists in low gear. I think I could be excused for drawing such an inference.

In my opinion it is always dangerous to include only one branch of the house when speaking of those who are the champions of liberty. I want to tell the Prime Minister that the party I represent is determined that the Canadian people shall be just as free as it is humanly possible for people to be in a well ordered economy, a well ordered state. I do not mean to say, either, that they should not be ordered; but I will say that we stand for the absolute minimum of regulation of the people of this country and the absolute minimum of regulation of the economy, because we believe that men do their best work when they are free. I wanted him to know that it is not only the Liberals and Conservatives who stand for liberty and freedom; not at all. I place my party squarely with those who are champions of individual liberty.

Before I consider the matters raised in His Excellency's address, I should also like to offer my sincere congratulations to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marler) upon his appointment to that very important ministry, and also to those ministers who have undertaken larger responsibilities in the government since the house adjourned last June. I should also like to congratulate all the new members who were introduced in the house on

Friday. It is my sincere hope that every one of them will have cause to feel that their parliamentary experience has been fruitful of good for their constituents and all of Canada. No matter how long they may sit here, I want it known that we have nothing but good will toward them and toward every member of the house. We want to express that good will on every possible occasion. If we are critical, as we sometimes are—and that is our duty—I want it known that it is not through lack of personal good will to the members of the government or the members of any other party.

I want the Prime Minister to know that he has our good will and our very best wishes when he goes to attend the conference of commonwealth prime ministers later this month. We wish him nothing but the very best on his journey and good results through his efforts at that conference.

Since the close of the last session it has been my privilege to travel a good deal, particularly as one of the delegates to this parliament to the conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association held in Kenya in British East Africa. I was very grateful for that privilege, and I must say that we made many fine friends during the long journey and in the course of the conference. I am sure that commonwealth relations were more firmly cemented and much improved as a consequence of what everyone described as the very best conference the association has ever had.

The sessions were all so interesting I felt I could not afford to miss a single minute, for indeed hardly a minute passed without something being said or done that helped to enlarge our understanding of commonwealth affairs and of the problems faced by the various countries of the commonwealth. I have only high praise for the leadership of the Canadian delegation, as well as for the very effective part that was played by each of my colleagues on the delegation.

After the conference at Nairobi closed I had the very great pleasure of visiting and travelling through the state of Israel. The government of that country afforded me every opportunity of seeing all that I wanted to see, and to become as thoroughly acquainted with their problems and conditions as I could become in the limited time I had to spend in the country. My young Jewish guides and travelling companions gave me a most concentrated course of instruction in Israeli affairs. They introduced me to some of the tremendous problems faced by that young state in a very old country. I was able to get some idea of the complication of Middle Eastern problems and the dangers