

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

katoon Board of Trade, urges remission of duty, to enable obtaining of cement from United States.) Mr. Oliver cannot stand up and say there was any collusion. My turn to speak now (Reads telegram from mayor of Saskatoon) and president Calgary Builder's Exchange. Letter urges removal of duty until Canadian manufacturers are able to supply demand. This answers my friend with regard to cessation of duties on Oct. 31st, 93. (Reads telegram from secretary Edmonton Board of Trade, stating general meeting of board unanimously approved action of president in signing telegram asking for removal of duty for four months.) Is not apology coming to me? Does hon. friend realize that this reasoning leads to conclusion, that boards of trade were in conspiracy to influence situation in Saskatchewan? (Reads telegram from Winnipeg and North Battleford Board of Trade, urging temporary reduction or abolishment of duty), 94-95. Oliver contends for a policy that will stand development in the West. Leader of opposition makes charges, when he might have come to my office and asked to see documents on which government took action. An apology due to me. Understood Prime Minister to say that letter received was anonymous. Not a man among opposition who will say government could have taken any other course, in view of telegrams. When Mr. Guthrie says we are the representatives of the trusts, position of leader of opposition and member for Edmonton will be sufficient answer, 95. No desire to misinterpret. Felt strongly on account of reckless way in which charge was made. Leader of opposition said distinctly that it was by reason of political expediency. Held strong views. If Minister of Finance for considerations of political expediency would do what has been done here, he would be recreant to his trust. Had a number of clippings from western papers. Liberal as well as Conservative, impressing government absolute necessity taking some action. Endeavoured to get railways to supply cars in increased numbers to Canada Cement Company to relieve famine in West, 95. Reads letter from manager of said company. Manager admitted not in a position to make shipment. Junior member for Halifax critical of government. Cement shortage not only in West but also in East, 97. Jones said 35,000 barrels shortage to maritime provinces. Government work at Queens county hung up on account of shortage. Unless conspiracy existed among boards of trade, etc. Laurier's charge that this reduction was made out of consideration of political expediency must be branded as reckless and unfounded. Replies to Laurier, 98. Reads further correspondence from manager Canada Cement Company, 99. Action of government going to inure to the untold benefit of the West, 100. Cement Co. will be obliged to establish industries in the

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West. Freight rates. Proved that action of government justified: Invite any member from West to put himself on record as opposing what government did. Hon. friend from Assiniboia, had he been Prime Minister would have taken some action, 101. Refers to speech of Hon. Mr. Lemieux at Marievale on Sept. 7. Senate threw out Tariff Commission Bill. Commission was not formed, 102. Accepts Lemieux's statement. Would not reject a farmer because he was a farmer on Tariff Commission. No free traders left in Canada, would have to go to England to get a man, 103. Mr. Oliver in doleful dumps regarding election in Macdonald. He and many of his colleagues went into Macdonald and fought under banner of reciprocity. Outstanding fact of constituency year after general election proclaimed to the world that Manitoba forever done with reciprocity. Reciprocity issue precisely same as in September last year. Right hon. friend owes it to House to state what stand he takes to-day, 104. Twits gentlemen opposite on their reciprocity views. Quotes 'Globe' and Sir George Ross, 105-106. Liberal caucus on reciprocity would be like unto a political feast of Pentecost. Agreed nothing of greater importance to commercial and general interest of country than tariff stability, 106. Right hon. friend cannot ride two horses of reciprocity and tariff stability at the same time, 106. No possible change or revision of tariff once a year would produce such condition of instability as the reciprocity agreement, 107. Hon. Geo. Brown said reciprocity would introduce an element of instability into the affairs of Canada. What have we lost by its rejection? Reciprocity would have been of great advantage to many, but what we have to consider is greatest good to greatest number. Agreement negotiated by Laurier with United States would not have been securing that, 108. What have we lost by not having reciprocity? Our trade three years ago about \$750,000,000; last year \$850,000,000; this year I hope it will be about \$950,000,000; bulk of trade with the United States. Our objection to the reciprocity agreement was the fact that we would surrender control of our fiscal policy. I do object to making an agreement which will deliver our tariff over to House of Congress of the United States. We can sell in United States to-day but, we cannot control their duty, 109, 110. United States could control our tariff for an indefinite time by the very force of their importance as compared to ours. Some things the government has done. Enlarged boundaries of Manitoba and put that province on same basis as other provinces in the West. The naval policy, 110, 111. The T. and N. O. railway opposed by Liberals and thrown out by the Senate. Inferred it was thrown out because Sir Wilfrid Laurier opposed it. This government may submit its record during past year