

greatly magnified by the lack of cohesion and cooperation among federal, provincial and municipal governments. Where responsibility for spending money is divided it is almost an axiom that what is everybody's business seems to be nobody's particular business. In other words, in the past there has been too much scrambling to place the load on the other fellow's shoulders, and too little union of responsibility tending to bring about a strict and businesslike administration of the millions of dollars which unfortunately must be spent each month in Canada on some form of relief. After all, whether funds be supplied by the federal, the provincial or the municipal government, there is only one source from which they may be secured, namely out of the pocket of the taxpayer.

What I am about to say is not said in criticism of the late government or of the right hon. gentleman now leading the opposition, because I believe the provinces, the municipalities and perhaps to some extent the federal government have all been a bit to blame, perhaps innocently enough, for the condition which has heretofore existed. I suggest that if a citizen from Mars had looked down upon Canada's method of dealing with relief and unemployment during the past three years, he would have been reminded of what Lord Chesterfield said to his son: "My son, you will be amazed with how much ignorance the world is governed." The proposals outlined in the speech from the throne with regard to this all important problem seek to remedy the existing lack of cooperation. A representative national commission assisted by a representative advisory committee is to be set up. May I express everybody's hope that with the cooperation of hon. members opposite both the commission and the committee may be truly representative and accomplish great results.

The transfer of camps for single homeless men from the Department of National Defence to the Department of Labour is a reform which is perhaps long overdue. Last year I visited some of those camps, and I believe any hon. member who took the trouble to do so must have come to the conclusion that certain changes were necessary.

Further, we find outlined in the speech from the throne proposed changes to the Bank of Canada Act. Those changes foreshadowed in the speech from the throne are not new to the people of Canada. The Prime Minister, before taking office and as leader of the Liberal party, made it clear that in its present form the Bank of Canada Act was not acceptable to that party. The reasons were fully laid before the people as an issue upon which

the major parties were clearly divided during the last campaign. The proposed legislation is in accordance with the platform laid down and insisted upon in order that these two important functions, the control of credit and the issue of currency, shall be administered by a Bank of Canada in which the government as owners has a predominant interest, and over which it has effective control.

The speech proposes an amendment to the Canadian National Railways Act whereby the government of the day may be responsible to this house and there will be a greater measure of control on the part of parliament over this publicly owned work, in which such an enormous amount of public money is invested and the financing of which has become a major problem. This amendment involves a serious question of policy. The question of employment is to some extent wrapped up with the problem of the Canadian National Railways. Under the present method of administration government authority and responsibility to parliament in connection with this great railway have been greatly lessened. The proposal is to restore them to a marked degree. The time at my disposal on this occasion does not permit me to deal further with this important problem.

Then we find a proposal to create parliamentary secretaryships, and this proposal will, I hope, meet with the approval of every hon. member of this house. It is established in the mother of parliaments and I believe is fully approved by British statesmen regardless of party affiliations. It should create the building up in this house of a body of men who because of the experience gained as under secretaries will be better able in the future to carry on the responsible duties attaching to cabinet positions. I fancy that the right hon. leader of the opposition and some of those who sit beside him will agree with me that it will afford a measure of relief to the ministers of the day who can very properly turn over some of the exacting details of their offices to under secretaries, and do so without impairing the efficiency of their work. From every viewpoint I submit to the house that this administrative reform is one that will be found of benefit to Canada.

May I crave the indulgence of the house for the imperfections of my presentation of this important motion. May I add that the government, and we its supporters, enjoying as we do a very large majority, carry with that privilege a very grave responsibility, a responsibility not to abuse the power that we possess, but to see that support is thrown