

Mr. BENNETT: This is not the only instance to which I shall point, not only with regard to inconsistency but worse, before I conclude. I want the right hon. gentleman to understand, when he makes the observations he has made, that I am reading from sessional paper 91 of Monday, February 14, 1927, and the closing paragraph of that letter—

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Read the whole letter—

Mr. BENNETT: The closing paragraph of the letter, which is signed by W. L. Mackenzie King, reads as follows:

If there is anything which, having regard to my responsibilities as Prime Minister, I can even yet do to avert such a deplorable and, possibly, far-reaching crisis, I shall be glad so to do, and shall be pleased to have my resignation withheld at Your Excellency's request pending the time it may be necessary for Your Excellency to communicate with the Secretary of State for the Dominions.

I am, Your Excellency,

Yours very sincerely,

W. L. Mackenzie King.

And then a whole campaign was conducted; and within the sound of my voice there are members who declared time after time that this country was no longer a colony and could not be ruled from Downing street, while the right hon. gentleman sat mute from malice. Not a word did he ever say as to the truth; not a word did he ever communicate to the Canadian people as to the fact that he had asked Lord Byng to appeal to Downing street and that Lord Byng had declined. So the campaign was finished. That was the solicitude shown for the crown by my right hon. friend; there you have that position clearly defined.

Mr. RALSTON: Not very clear.

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. gentleman does not see the point of it? He does not see the point of permitting the crown to be held up to ignominy during a long campaign throughout the country, while all the time the right hon. gentleman was in possession of information that would have stilled the campaign against the crown?

There is one slight difficulty under which the right hon. gentleman labours. He worked himself into a fine frenzy in the closing observations of his speech. One would almost think he had emerged from the valley of humiliation. In his mad effort to secure extrication from the valley he is endeavouring to pull everyone else down into it, and when he finds it impossible to do so his anger knows no limit. Now, in the valley of humiliation and still unable to extricate himself

from it, he asks this house not to believe that he is a demagogue but that he is a high-minded statesman. For the purpose of serving his own ends he makes a joke even of our Christian faith.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. BENNETT: I knew perfectly that hon. gentlemen would desire to withdraw themselves from such a statement. Last fall they desired to extricate themselves from the valley, and after the speech delivered here they said they were no longer in that valley of humiliation. So the right hon. gentleman went to London for the purpose of endeavouring to make his defence and prove that he was not in the valley of humiliation at all but that someone else was there, and he thought that might placate those who did not believe they were going to be dragged down into the valley with him.

But this I want to say, Mr. Speaker. Having endeavoured in this fine frenzy to work himself out of the valley to-night he has read quotations, for the third time in three successive parliaments, from the same speeches. I now know that this little residence, this sojourn in the valley, has interfered somewhat with the originality of his thought, and he now calms himself by perusing the speeches that were made by my humble self in days gone by. For the third time he has read them to the House of Commons; he read them in 1930, he read them in 1931 and now in 1932 he reads them again.

Mr. YOUNG: Do you object?

Mr. BENNETT: Not a bit. I rejoice that he thus associates himself with the policies and principles of the party to which I belong. But there is only one objection I have to make, and I shall make it very briefly. It is passing strange that one who used to be a student of economics and of history fails—alas, because he is no longer in the high, bright light of the clear atmosphere above—to let his mind function upon these matters as it should. The atmosphere of the valley has been unhappy and unpleasant. It has had the effect of souring the disposition of the right hon. gentleman; it has made him somewhat difficult to get along with, and at the earliest opportunity he endeavours to object to everything that is done and to cast aspersions on everyone who dares to differ from him. Is he ignorant of the fact that the conditions of 1929 and 1930 have changed? Is he not aware of the fact that the whole world has changed since then? Does he not realize that even the Bank of England has