

The Budget—Mr. Drew

one occasion. In 1949 it went to the polls with the following declaration which had been adopted in 1948:

The Liberal party recommends that the proposals placed before the dominion-provincial conference of 1945 and 1946 remain its objective and stands ready to support the implementation of these.

That was definite enough.

Then, in case there is any suggestion that this was something that was departed from later on, may I say that in this very well produced booklet—and it is produced with all the disregard of expense which this government shows in every department—

An hon. Member: It is not a government expenditure.

Mr. Drew: From the point of view of the exterior appearance—

An hon. Member: But it is not a government expenditure.

Mr. Drew:—and also from the point of view of the printing and technical presentation.

An hon. Member: Who pays for it?

An hon. Member: Not the government.

Mr. Drew: I imagine that the minister knows very well where those lavish funds came from that the Liberal party had in the last election.

Mr. Fleming: Slush funds.

Mr. Drew: Let me read from page 200. I would not want any hon. member opposite to be under any misapprehension as to the position taken by the party of which the Prime Minister is the leader, in regard to this subject, which the Prime Minister discussed in this way last Friday. At page 200, in heavy capitals so that it will be duly emphasized, we have the following:

Dominion-Provincial Relations.

The Liberal party recommends that the proposals placed before the dominion-provincial conference of 1945 and 1946 remain its objective and stands ready to support the implementation of these.

An hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Mr. Drew: I heard applause on the other side. I hope that applause will indicate that those who expressed applause by thumping their desks may not just for a moment forget they are merely applauding a prepared statement by the Liberal party, but that they actually realize that this was a positive undertaking, emphasized in special heavy type, as a basis upon which an appeal was made to the people of Canada. This statement covers a number of very definite things, as all hon. members know. There were the details of public investment which was to be undertaken so that plans would always be

available to deal with possible unemployment. Then also there was the proposal in regard to the social security program, and there was also the proposal to establish a general system that would take care of all the unemployed. These were things which were set out in detail in what has come to be known as the green book. Is this book now a thing of the past? The campaign material says it is not. The Prime Minister in his statement which I have just quoted said that since these proposals were not accepted "we are no longer bound by them". I call his attention to the fact that the party to which he belongs expressed its own conviction that it was bound to them by its declarations in both 1949 and 1953.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Speaker, will my hon. friend permit a question? Is the hon. gentleman aware that well over two-thirds of the proposals in the field of social welfare proposed in 1945 have since been implemented by this government?

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, I think that the Minister of National Health and Welfare forgot for a moment that he had not been asked a question, for he always makes a long speech in answer even to a few words. I have not only not forgotten; I know it is not the case; and the minister knows it is not the case. As a matter of fact, the Prime Minister the other day, in a rather casual way, said that it might be suggested—

Mr. Martin: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, I am making a speech and I propose to make it without interruptions.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Leader of the Opposition does not show his acquiescence by resuming his seat, he is not to be interrupted.

An hon. Member: Sit down.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the hon. gentleman knows I am not rising to ask him a question.

An hon. Member: Why are you rising? To make a speech?

Mr. Martin: I am rising on a matter of privilege. I pointed out that the hon. gentleman had forgotten that the federal government has implemented most of the social welfare proposals.

An hon. Member: Sit down.

Mr. Martin: Two-thirds of them. Then the Leader of the Opposition—

An hon. Member: Sit down.

An hon. Member: That is a speech.