

that the government has not placed its imprimature upon the Bill and suggested we should make inquiry into such an important subject as is now before us. Without adopting the role of a prophet of evil, I venture to say that while it is very gratifying that this Bill has been introduced and will be discussed in the Senate, yet I fear very much that it will meet the fate in another place which was dealt out to the Bill of last session. I would again urge, not only upon this chamber but particularly upon the members of the government present, the necessity of their being strongly impressed with the responsibility which falls upon them as a government to give the very best attention to not only the elaboration of such legislation as this, but its adoption in a practical way.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUÉ—I may be permitted to say to the hon. gentleman, that the Bill is now engaging the attention of the Minister of Justice, and I have reason to believe that the government will take charge of the Bill before its final stage, if not in this House, in the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. KERR—I am glad to know that the hon. leader of the opposition does not think any the worse of the Bill because it comes from my hon. friend instead of from some of those responsible for and charged with the duty of government. I am quite sure that after the way the Bill has been presented here, it is unnecessary to say anything further to commend it to the unanimous support of the members of this House. The subject has been before the House on a previous occasion, as has been stated, and we know exactly what was then said in support of the measure, and we all appreciated it at the time. The condition of things has not changed in that respect; but, on the contrary, we are now in a position more fairly to press forward legislation on this subject and endeavour to put it into actual practical use. There is this to be said about the matter; there are always in a community like ours many who are averse to what you may call radical changes in the way of removing or relieving from the consequences of their faults those who are guilty of crime, and who fail to see that there is a different

method of treatment to be measured out to the young offender, whose misfortune has been that he has been brought up in environments not the best, in a home more or less surrounded by crime or immorality, or perhaps has had no home at all. Those are the cases which would be dealt with largely under this Bill, and I have no doubt whatever from what has been done already in some provinces where the attempt has been made to deal with juvenile delinquents, that nothing but good can result from the experiment of putting this law in force. In the province of Ontario, as is well known to many, great progress has been made, and they have gone a long distance towards the provisions of this Bill. The government of Ontario for many years devoted themselves to progressive legislation on this subject and with most beneficial results. Industrial homes, a separate juvenile court, care for the young in their homes, have been provided, and, I think, so far as is known at present, with marked success. When the hon. gentleman from Middlesex was at the head of the Ontario government, that government was entitled to credit for having introduced most advanced legislation on this subject, and the former Attorney General the Honourable J. M. Gibson, gave a great deal of study to the question, and showed an interest in the young people, and in the study he made of what is necessary to bring about beneficial results to those who have not had the opportunities of knowing better. I think it was a great testimony to his heart as well as to his intellect. I was sorry to hear my hon. friend from London speak with reference to Deputy Chief Archibald of Toronto. It is quite true that Deputy Chief Archibald does not see altogether eye to eye with all the provisions of this Bill, but he is a man who has been accustomed to dealing with the criminal class, and had much to do with the humanitarian side of the question at times. I think there are very few men, in Ontario at all events, who have done so much for the improvement of their fellowmen, especially of those who come within the criminal class, or at all events before the criminal courts, as Deputy Chief Archibald. Both in connection with that and in