

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

improved transportation facilities. Again in 1912-13, \$1,500,000 was voted by the representatives but was defeated. The provinces needed it. Regret that men found it possible through a spirit of partisanship, to take away from their own people those things which come nearer to doing practical good than any other thing could possibly do. No mention is made of naval aid to mother country. Canada allowed the taxpayers of a little sea-girt island to put their hands in their pockets and pay the bill, 7. With buoyant revenues, wealth and potential greatness we are not willing to bear our share of that nation of which we form a part, 8.

*Meighen, Hon. Arthur (Solicitor General)*—151.

Reference made to speeches of Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Clark, 151. We are not sure whether free food is to be inscribed upon the banner of Opposition or not. I purpose to deal most with the Highways Bill, 152. The question before the House is whether or not this government were justified in rejecting the altered Bill as it was brought down by the Senate. This government would not have been justified had they accepted these amendments, 153. The Highways Bill did not set aside any specific sum of money from the treasury of Canada. What right is there in the Commons of Canada of 1913 to tie the hands of the Commons of Canada of 1917 as to the methods of distribution, 184. The principle of distribution according to population was not followed in the Agricultural Instruction Bill at all. We reserve for this House all its powers and rights in this regard, 155. The conditions in the Highways Bill were swept away, 156. The highways of Canada are within the jurisdiction of the provincial legislatures in so far as they are local, 157. Reference made to Agricultural Instruction Bill, 158. If the principle is right that the power should be denied the government, then we should repeal the main provisions of the Public Works Act, 159. The Senate of this country has no power to initiate or to amend or to interfere with Bills appropriating money, 160-2. It was argued in the Senate that the whole Bill was unconstitutional. The Senate fastened on the Bill amendments they knew were not in their power to pass, and they knew that the result would be to destroy the Highways Bill once and for all, 163.

*Molloy, J. P. (Provencher)*—282.

The government are going to vote against free wheat, 282. Ninety-five per cent of the Conservatives in the west desire free wheat. They desire an entrance to the American market. The raising of wheat in the west is not paying. Free wheat is the position the western farmers are taking and they are going to see that it is carried through, 283. Quotations from Mr. Partridge, 284.

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*Neely, D. B. (Humboldt)*—259.

Speech from the Throne remarkable for the number of its omissions. I would like to ask whether any single amendment made by the Senate to the Highways Bill was in opposition to the expressed intention of the Prime Minister with regard to the expenditure under that Bill, 259. This government has got to deal with the question of the defence of the commerce and of the coasts of this country. United States tariff referred to, 260. The prosperity of the people of the West means the prosperity of the Dominion. The wheat crop referred to. The great need of the wheat grower in the West is a market for his surplus grain, 261-2. Free wheat and flour referred to and quotations in that regard, 263-4. Amendment moved, 265.

*Nesbitt, E. W. (Oxford North)*—127.

Surprised at no mention of the naval question in the speech from the Throne, 127. The ordinary people are very well satisfied that the Liberals defeated the grant of \$35,000,000. Australian correspondent of London Times quoted, 128. Good Roads Bill and early production of estimates referred to, 129. While some of us are unwilling to have truck or trade with the Yankees, we follow very closely the events that take place in the United States, 130. The leader of the Opposition may have had many policies to all appearances different on the surface, yet he has always been consistent, 131. The commission appointed to look into the high cost of living will do no good, 132. All the farmers ask for is cheap transportation and open markets. The duty on wheat referred to, 133-4. The time is coming when you cannot cajole the farmer into thinking that he is protected by protection. Unless there is some change in the administration of the country for the benefit of the West the times will not improve there, 135. It is true you may educate the farmer to a better system of farming under which he will grow more grain, 136.

*Nicholson, D. (Queens, P.E.I.)*—121.

The people of Canada are heartily in favour of the Highways Bill and in my part of the country there was great disappointment when the Senate defeated it, 121. Farmers are enjoying a certain amount of protection under our fiscal system. The fact of the matter is we are not producing enough to feed our own people, 122. The farmers of Canada fully appreciate the policy of Minister of Agriculture. Redistribution as it affects Prince Edward Island referred to, 123-6.

*Oliver, Hon. Frank (Edmonton)*—80.

This is the first occasion in the history of the Canadian Parliament in which the Government has met Parliament with what can only be described as a purely