

and support of the people of the country who want to see the Canadian National system given a fair chance and a square deal.

Let me pass on to the next topic with which my right hon. friend dealt. Instead of taking up his speech from the beginning and following it in the order of its delivery, with my right hon. friend's permission, I will take up the last point first and work back to the beginning. He touched upon the Speech from the Throne. I think that was the subject he dealt with just prior to dealing with the question of the by-elections. He said that the Speech from the Throne ought to discuss Imperial affairs, and ought to give an account of the conditions of the country, and the one thing it ought not to do was to touch on any question of the tariff. Whoever heard, he said, of changes in the tariff being described in the Speech from the Throne?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I did not say that at all.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: What did the hon. member say?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I spoke about a specific question affecting the tariff being foretold in the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I thought the hon. member said any change whatever.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I will show you the speech.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I know the workings of my hon. friend's mind, and I jotted down his words. I knew exactly what he was going to say when he came to the question. The impression he tried to convey to the House was that the Speech from the Throne was not the place to mention the tariff or to mention—

Mr. MEIGHEN: No, no.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Possibly since the dinner hour my hon. friend has had a chance to look at the speech he prepared when he was prime minister. Perhaps he looked at it or it comes back to his mind.

Mr. MEIGHEN: No, I know what I said in the speech I made.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Now, I have in my hand the speech which he placed in the hands of His Excellency on the 15th February, 1921. This is what it contains:

My advisers are convinced of the necessity for revision of the Customs tariff. In order to secure the most complete information a committee has conducted an extensive and thorough inquiry, and has secured the views of all parties and interests in every province. The hearings necessary for this purpose have now been completed, and the conclusions founded thereon will be submitted to you in due course.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Hear, hear.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Hear, hear.

Mr. GRAHAM: Were they ever submitted?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The question whether or not what is put into the lips of His Excellency is in general terms or specific terms is a very small matter as compared with whether the right hon. member leading the House puts into the lips of His Excellency words which he never intends to carry out and never does carry out. My right hon. friend knows as well as every other hon. member of this House knows, that it is customary to mention in the Speech from the Throne intended revisions in the tariff. I have in my hand the Speech from the Throne of March 25, 1897, and this is the clause that refers to the tariff there:

A measure will be submitted to you for the revision of the tariff, which it is believed will provide the necessary revenue, and while having due regard to industrial interests, will make our fiscal system more satisfactory to the masses of the people.

That is the wording of the Speech from the Throne by a Liberal administration in 1897. That promise in the Speech from the Throne was implemented. The revision was made, and the promise made to-day by His Excellency will be implemented.

My right hon. friend said that the Speech from the Throne should contain some reference to Imperial affairs.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I did not.

Mr. BUREAU: He remarked that it contained nothing.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Does my right hon. friend mean to say that he made no reference to Imperial affairs or Imperial relations?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I said that it was usual, amongst other things, to refer to inter-Imperial relations. I do not say that the Speech should do so.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: That was a part of my right hon. friend's criticism of the present Speech from the Throne. If he takes his own speech, the one to which I refer, I challenge him to find any kind of allusion to inter-Imperial affairs in it.

He said that the Speech from the Throne should contain some reference to the condition of affairs in our own country. I do not know whether my right hon. friend has read the first paragraph of this speech; but I think perhaps, it is worth while reading it over to him again.