

The Address—Mr. Cruickshank

willing to go along with that because the development of power within the two central provinces will ultimately build up the province of British Columbia. But I want to point out that we in British Columbia, the Pacific gateway to your great commercial and manufacturing provinces, built up our hydroelectric system on a free enterprise basis without one dollar's worth of assistance from any government, either federal or provincial. We were not successful at it at first, but eventually we put a young Canadian in charge. The only black mark he has against his name in the great advancements he has made in our hydroelectric development in British Columbia, the leading and the greatest province in Canada, is that he is a Rhodes scholar, but he is living that down and building our hydroelectric without assistance from any government or any source other than free enterprise. When my hon. friends over there in the corner talk to me about socialism I say let them look to my own province, the province that has increased more in population and more in industrial strength per capita than any other province in Canada in the last ten years without one dollar of assistance from any government at all. Let them try that.

One thing more, Mr. Speaker; I want to be very brief in this because I may be accused of harking back to an old subject. Let me say this in deference to a certain friend of mine in whom I have the greatest confidence and whose ability I recognize. I did not have the opportunity of hearing his talk today because I had to go to the radio station to make a speech. I will not call it a speech because I know there will be some dispute about it from my friend and colleague the hon. member for Coast-Capilano (Mr. Sinclair). I had to go and say something at the radio station. I would have much preferred to stay and listen to the hon. member for Regina City (Mr. McCusker), but preferably to listen to the football game. I am not going to say anything about civil defence at this time other than to say I do not think any real attempt has been made to deal with civil defence. I have listened to great men such as the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson), the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the President of the United States. Frankly, what I might say about national defence is of no more significance than what might be said by the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Drew); we are both amateurs. But when these three great gentlemen speak, what they say is of importance. I believe the time has come when we in Canada must realize we are going through most critical times. I believe, sir, that one

way in which we can say to the people of Canada, to the veterans of Canada and through the veterans of Canada to their sons, that we are not hesitating, that we are not asking them to wait until next year, is to bring down suitable legislation enabling those receiving war veterans allowance to receive their just dues. Do not let us wait until next session; let us bring it down now.

As I see it, I can do nothing to help them that would be of any material benefit. Should I vote for the amendment of the hon. member for Acadia (Mr. Quelch), it would not help. I think that is one of the fallacies of our system. We talk about reforming the rules and regulations of the house, and we bring in those ten-minute and fifteen-minute periods, which I am sorry to say was instigated by the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) for whom I have the greatest admiration. One thing we could do to reform the rules of this house is to see that a matter as important as the amendment moved by the hon. member for Acadia is voted on on its merits, and not as a motion of confidence in the government. I have confidence in the government, and—as the minister of external affairs knows I have in the past—I will refrain from voting.

On motion of Mr. Fulton the debate was adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Fournier (Hull): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we intend to proceed with the two resolutions in the name of the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton), one concerning amendments to the National Defence Act, and the other to approve an agreement between the parties to the North Atlantic treaty regarding the status of their forces. Then we will take up the resolution in the name of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Gregg) concerning amendments to the Government Annuities Act, followed by the resolution in the name of the Secretary of State (Mr. Bradley) concerning public printing and stationery. Then if we have time left we will take up the bill which received first reading today, concerning the amendment to the Bills of Exchange Act. Then we would resume debate on the motion of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Abbott) for second reading of Bill No. 10, to approve the financial agreement between Canada and the United Kingdom.

At 6.15 p.m. the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to the order of the house passed on November 2, 1951.