

Mr. FRASER: I am very glad indeed that in the first few observations I make in this House I am able to win the approval of hon. gentlemen opposite. Surely the Minister of Agriculture was badly advised when he made that remark—or he has looked into matters very carelessly—because since that time I have examined the record and know exactly what the position is. Hon. gentlemen opposite, I have no doubt, will be delighted at the information I am going to give them. I can assure them that they have had more speakers on their side than we have had in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne and the amendment thereto. Let me point out that up to the time the Minister of Agriculture spoke the speakers were as follows. Liberals 26, Progressives 5, Independents 1, Labour 2, a total of 34, while the opposition had put up a total of 18 speakers. Now where is the obstruction? I may say that we on this side expect this government to resign.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. FRASER: Yes. I was sent down to use all the pressure I could to get the government to resign, and that shall be my first business in this House. The government are expected to resign because they do not control the House. That is apparent because they have no legislation to submit to parliament. If they are prepared to go on with the business of the country why do they not produce the necessary legislation so that the House may carry on? So I say they are not in a position to submit legislation to keep the House going or to carry on the business of the country. There are pressing problems confronting Canada to-day, and the legislation necessary to settle those problems has not been brought down, although parliament has been in session six weeks. Surely it is time the government resigned and let somebody else get into power that will bring down the necessary legislation.

There is another aspect of the government's attitude that is most surprising to me, and it is this: The amount of talk there has been on the part of members opposite supporting the government and the different groups here in regard to co-operation. Now it is only a few months since we passed through a general election, and I want to ask if anyone heard of co-operation from this government during the election campaign. Co-operation with the different groups in this House is not the doctrine that was preached by the Prime Minister at Richmond Hill. He did not say then that if he were

not placed in a proper position he would co-operate with the groups in this chamber. I do not think so; I do not think anyone ever heard a word about co-operation until after parliament had assembled. Now the different groups here and the government are talking all the time about co-operation. Let us examine the situation a little. Were the government and these groups endorsed by the country at large? I think not. I think the government themselves suffered a good deal at the hands of the electorate on that occasion, and that is the reason they are in such a difficult position to-day. Were the Progressives here endorsed by the electors? Why, Sir, when they went to the country they had a representation on the floor of this House of sixty-five members, and they have come back from the last election with only twenty-eight. The only party that has come back with an absolute endorsement from the electors is the Conservative party. It is the party that is expecting and asking this government to get out.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. FRASER: Is not that a reasonable request? My hon. friends opposite applaud. Of course they applaud the statement because they know it is right. Beyond all question the government and these different groups were discredited at the last election, and yet they come here and talk about co-operation. I say they are flying in the face of public opinion; they are defying public sentiment. There is only one thing for them to do, and that is to hand in their resignation and let us have a chance. It is no argument to ask us what we would do if we were called upon to form a government. It is of no use to say to us, "You have not a majority here and you could not carry on". To hon. gentlemen who raise that argument I say, "That is none of your business. If you are not able to carry on, hand in your resignations. Never mind about the other fellows". One sure thing is this: that hon. gentlemen opposite, having come from the country two or three months ago, are not entitled to another dissolution, whereas this party is.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. FRASER: Let me say to hon. gentlemen opposite who are so merry and feel so sure at the present moment that they are going to hold down their positions, that I am not so sure about it. I want to tell them, that the people want another election. They are asking for it; they are demanding it, and whether you like it or not they are going to have it.