

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): I am happy to be able to advise the hon. gentleman that that proposal has been abandoned by those who made it. And it may interest him to know that recently the residents of that part of Nova Scotia residing on the Dartmouth side of the harbour of Halifax have suggested another scheme which engineers of the Department of Railways and Canals are now investigating.

#### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. W. E. ROWE AND  
SECONDED BY MR. C. N. DORION

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. W. E. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe) moved:

That an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the humble thanks of this house to His Excellency for the gracious speech which he has been pleased to make to both houses of parliament.

He said: Mr. Speaker, before asking the indulgence of this house to consider His Excellency's most gracious speech, may I take this opportunity to thank the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) for giving me the privilege of speaking on this occasion, and also to express to him the appreciation of the people of the riding of Dufferin-Simcoe which I have had the honour to represent in this house during the past ten years. I am sure that there are many things that we all hold in common in this house and that despite the disagreements and differences of opinion that we may have had concerning other speeches from the throne, we are agreed that at this time we have to consider one of the most important ever presented to parliament. However, I am sure that we are in common agreement in extending our thanks, and good wishes to His Excellency, as His Majesty's loyal representative in Canada, and also to Her Excellency Lady Bessborough for the coming year. They are not only noble representatives of the crown but also descendants of the two great races that were so conspicuous in the development of Canada in the earlier years.

Let me also congratulate the hon. members who have been so recently elected to this parliament. I extend my felicitations—it is a pleasure indeed to do so—to the hon. Minister of National Defence (Mr. Stirling) and the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Hanson) on their appointment to these high

offices, and I congratulate the government as well on selecting two such admirable representatives, one from the historical province of New Brunswick, and the other from the beautiful province of British Columbia. I am sure that those who have been closely associated with these hon. gentlemen appreciate the combination of ability, long experience and integrity that they bring to the discharge of their responsible duties, thus giving additional strength to this government.

I also congratulate the Prime Minister on returning to this parliament in such apparent good health and vigour after a year of great activity. It is I believe generally recognized throughout Canada that with respect to energy, ability and integrity he is unsurpassed by any Prime Minister in the history of Canada. I also extend my compliments to the leader of His Majesty's loyal opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King). I am glad to see that he has returned to this parliament evidently restored to health and vigour. I have always had a good deal of sympathy with the leader of the opposition, lately especially, because I feel that even though his silence has been most conspicuous his task is none the less difficult.

The speech that has been presented to this parliament is indeed an outstanding one. Frankly, it is the most important document that I have ever heard read to this house since I entered it in 1925. It has indeed arrested the imagination of the Canadian people.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. ROWE: I am glad that those who sit to the left of the Speaker say hear, hear; at any rate the speech has arrested their surprise. It gives a vivid report of a government that has courageously met the national necessities by advanced legislation which has been presented in rapid succession during these years of crisis, and I have no doubt that when this house considers the speech from the throne from an unbiased point of view it will accept it as a fair plan of assured progress in the future. Moreover, when our people throughout the country read it they will be satisfied, I have no doubt, not only with the proposals that are therein contained but more particularly with the fact which it indicates, that this is not the beginning but the continuance of reform measures that are already on the statute books.

I should be derelict in my responsibilities, especially representing as I do a riding which is engaged chiefly in agriculture, and seeing that I am myself and always have been en-