

that may have temporary success. It may. But there are not lacking to-day signs that the effect of those very appeals has been to lessen the strength of the bonds of confederation and to weaken the position of this dominion as part of the empire.

Once the party came into office, when the Prime Minister was called upon to form a government, we had evidence of the success of the appeal made by the hon. gentleman who is now Minister of Justice. When the government was first formed the hon. gentleman who is now Minister of Public Works (Mr. Cardin) was not allocated to the position he at present holds. He was to be sworn in as Secretary of State. But the little corporal from Sorel was not thus to be denied. The support the party had received from the province enabled the little corporal to train his guns upon the Prime Minister, and in the words often quoted by Abraham Lincoln, "the coon came down." For we find that the little corporal had been able successfully to maintain his position. The little corporal from Sorel had become the emperor of the day. Quick advancement! But what was yesterday was yesterday, to-day is to-day. He was quite right. So you have the result that followed from the appeal thus made. Then of course there were other difficulties to overcome. The minutes passed into hours before finally my friend the hon. member for Richelieu-Verchères (Mr. Cardin) became Minister of Public Works. In that position I am sure he will, in the words of the Minister of Justice, cast no reflection upon the people he represents and will discharge his great duties with fairness and with a sense of obligation that comes to one who is from a province that took the lead from 1930 and is now able to enforce its will upon the Prime Minister.

Then, of course, there are other striking changes. For instance we welcome the face of my genial friend the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning). Of course, the general elections did not bring him into the house; he had retired from politics. He has assumed another role. But think of the value of his experience to us now. He returns to the Department of Finance, and that genial smile comes only from the fact that for years he was manager of a very well known hostel of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, which means of course "service," therefore a smile for all the guests. And then he has learned what many men have yet to learn, what my hon. friends from the west, one of them no longer here, have told us; as a director of a bank he would be able to tell you how every loan creates a deposit. That would meet with the warm approval of those hon. gentlemen,

some of them at least. Of course there would be no difficulty at all in explaining the condition of the investments of insurance companies, because in the position of director of an insurance company he had great opportunities to that end. Then there was another matter which was somewhat interesting; he was the chairman of a reconstruction committee—no relation of course to the party of that name. As chairman he perhaps may be able now to enlighten us on what became of Laurentide. There are a lot of investors in England who would like to know.

Mr. DUNNING: It might embarrass you if I did.

Mr. BENNETT: No, it would not embarrass me, thank fortune. What became of Laurentide would be an interesting study, because these were purely provincial companies over which the dominion had no control.

Mr. FACTOR: He found the national debt increased by almost a billion dollars.

Mr. BENNETT: Hon. gentlemen have a tendency to speak just low enough to be heard by me, but not by others. If their courage is as great as it should be, if they desire to ask a question, let them stand up and ask it, and I shall endeavour to answer at once.

The administration having thus safely been launched and the hon. member for Churchill (Mr. Crerar) having once more found himself, not Minister of Railways as heretofore but in the possession of a combined department, he will I am sure be able to explain to the satisfaction of the house the operations of the grain exchange, his best beloved child, and how they are able now to sell on that exchange wheat that is supposed to be maturing in October next but which has not yet been sown. Perhaps he will be able to explain that to the satisfaction of the people of this country, but there is some doubt even as to that. I will deal with that presently.

Having thus established his government we are told by the mover that the Prime Minister at once began to show such action that in three or four months he did more than had ever been done in this country before. In so doing he made new trade agreements; he broadened human liberty, extended freedom to the downcast and depressed throughout the world, and gave to the name of Canada a place amongst the nations of the world that had never been dreamed of before. Well, it was a great achievement—a great achievement, as the hon. member for Parry Sound has said. Let us examine it for just a moment. The press indicated—and the