

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH
FROM THE THRONE—*Con.*

Intosh & Co., of Halifax, 457. The proposal to aid agriculture, so ridiculously small last year that we could hardly take it seriously. If the Minister of Agriculture wants to be taken seriously he will need to improve and propose more effective steps, 458. The Highway Bill, introduced by the Premier last year, not a Highway Bill at all, but a bill to provide a fund for the Conservative party. The Prime Minister's claim regarding fulfilment of promises made in opposition, 459. Reads Halifax platform. Sixteen very important reforms proposed in 1907 by the Prime Minister. Surprised that not one of the sixteen has been mentioned during the present session, 461. Gives list of dismissals and appointments, 462. Promised honest elections, and the performance we have retailed here during the past week. Quotes Sir Rodolphe Forget's speech from 'La Patrie,' 463. We will hold the Prime Minister responsible for the promise made until he explains the matter. Proof that irregularities in Richelieu and MacDonald were connived at by the government. We expected the Minister of Finance to take some high ground on the question. He is supposed to be the salt of the cabinet—taken in to give it respectability; but with a graceful wave of the hand he dismissed the whole question, 464, 465.

Turriff, J. G. (Assiniboia)—101.

Minister of Public Works stated on a future occasion he would take up subject of elections. If he does not, we will take occasion to afford him an opportunity to make good the statement made at a banquet to the effect that the election in Saskatchewan had been won by disfranchisement of British subjects. Never was a statement made more devoid of truth 265. I would suggest he use it to extract Solicitor-Generalship from the government, 265. Canada's trade expansion. Prime Minister two years ago went through western country declaring he would put an end to traffic running north and south. Under his administration we have our trade with United States increasing sevenfold faster than with Great Britain. Government promises not carried out in any respect. The navy question. Denied that any emergency existed; a put up job between members of the government and the Unionist party in the old country, 266. The emergency is that the Prime Minister wants to retain these members in his cabinet; men who professed that we owed nothing to Great Britain, 267. The question of good roads. Statement that Senate threw out Bill not true. The Premier's promises in the northwest prior to elections of 1911. If he was returned to power he was going to hand over the control of the natural resources to the local governments but under the domination of the Minister of Public Works he was not able to make good that promise, 268. The Grand Trunk Pacific

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railway and changing of grades; done at instigation of other companies, result the road will be changed from a first class to a second class line. Believed changes made at instigation of C.P.R. In line with everything else done by the government who have been standing in with the big interests ever since they came to power. The imposition of the duty on lumber, 269. Refusal of Minister of Labor to grant a board of conciliation to association of workmen, 270. Result, a strike and blockade of wheat and other grain in Western Canada. He tried to make the people of Canada believe that No. 1 Northern wheat in Canada was the same class as No. 1 Northern in Minneapolis. Specifies wheat grades in Winnipeg and Minneapolis, 272-273. Certain grades of wheat have not the qualities for making certain grades of biscuits, and they have to import, 273. They were not the ordinary conditions. Average difference in price for last three years 10 cents a bushel, 214. The Minister of Finance and the cement duties. The argument he put forward was that the leader of the opposition and the member for Edmonton were opposed to the reduction. The ground on which we based our conclusions that this was a political dodge, was a letter from the Prime Minister to one of his supporters, that there was no intention to reduce the duties. Less than a month from that date, on the demand of the master of the administration, the Finance Minister cut the duty in two, 275-276. He said he was absolutely justified in making that cut. If he had power to extend the duty for four months he had power to extend it for another four months. But he was in trouble with his manufacturing friends and therefore the duty was put back, showing the tendency of the government to stand in with the mergers and still more increase the cost of living. There was an election in Hochelaga and naturally the duty had to be put back to help the new Secretary of State. Liberals had no candidate, but Bourassa and Lavergne gave the Postmaster General all the trouble he wanted, 277. The Macdonald election. Minister of Finance and other members of cabinet had to assume the responsibility of what was done in Macdonald because their own colleagues had shouldered it upon them, 278. Refers to arrests made and quotes affidavits of Richard H. McDonald, 279-282. When leader of the government sat on this side of the House, he was a strenuous advocate of clean elections; but when I see how little he is trying to carry out his promises I must say I am beginning to lose faith in his integrity, 283. Poor excuse of the Minister of Public Works to say he is a bad man when they had no evidence against him. In connection with election in Richelieu we have two diametrically opposed statements by members of this House—Sir Rodolphe Forget and the Minister of