

*The Address—Mr. Archibald*

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you for your indulgence and for your kindness in listening to my rather long speech.

(Text):

**Mr. H. G. Archibald (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, in my remarks this evening I do not intend to indulge in the popular pastime of baiting the Tories. History has taught us that attempts to revive and maintain the past have proved futile; and, when future generations read of such things, it is usually under such titles as "Gone with the wind". What interests me is the fact that the government shows obvious fear of the official opposition. They can see themselves transplanted from the seats of the mighty and put across the floor of the house in the forthcoming election. I can understand why. It is because they have not been able to produce anything that would differentiate them from a Tory. But even at that, they have not been able to show the qualifications of a real Conservative, inasmuch as they have not got what one might call that Victorian look. I would suggest to them that, if they want to make a real job of being a Tory, and obviously they have been attempting it, they make a serious study and become imbued with such a modern and up-to-date development as the battle of the Boyne.

Never having had the leisure time, nor the means, to be a traditionalist, I have come to the conclusion that to a large extent the speech from the throne is indeed a waste of time. It has been outdated. The real speech is now made a month or so prior to the session opening, and it is made by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Abbott) in New York. Last year he gave his beets-and-turnips address to a group of newspapermen, telling them how Canada could eat these vegetables instead of lettuce and so on. In other words, he outlined the austerity program. This year, prior to the opening of the session, he gave to the women's Canadian club of New York the general economic trend that the country intended to follow. It is becoming obvious to me that, before this Canadian parliament can make up its mind what direction it intends to follow along economic lines, it must get the O.K. of Wall street. That trend of following the advice of the Americans is bringing its rewards.

Sometimes the Minister of Finance reminds me of Bing Crosby in the "Road to Zanzibar". Bing was exploiting Bob Hope as Fearless Fraser in a sideshow, and when one of the events went haywire he wanted Bob to get

repeatedly. The government having purposely restricted expenditures for building purposes, thus delaying as much as possible the execution of useful projects, they none the less applied in their own department an austerity program. Indeed, the town of Granby is in need mostly of a post office. The request for it was submitted long ago. While looking through the reports, I found out that on June 4, 1920, my late father, then member for the constituency I have the honour to represent, had made the request. This request, supported by proofs, had been made to the then Postmaster General concerning the urgent need of alterations to the Granby post office building, built about 1900, when the population was only 4,000 and postal revenue merely \$4,063.07. I again mention 1920, because at that time the population was double that of 1900, having increased to 8,000. Following the 1920 request, an additional story was built over the annex which measured approximately 21 feet by 37 feet. Yes, Mr. Speaker, an additional story 21 by 37 feet so as to compensate for the margin in turnover which had increased by \$10,611.46, because gross revenue in 1920 amounted to \$14,674.53.

Since 1920, the city of Granby where I live has been left with its antiquated post office, despite the fact that the population has increased threefold, that there are 68 diversified industries. Its gross postal revenue amounts to \$73,909.62, outside of post office money orders and postal notes. Mr. Speaker, this request was taken into consideration when it was obviously realized that such a building, due to the increased turnover, the number of office employees and postmen, no longer met the requirements over many years and that this request on my part was more than justified.

On behalf of the agricultural society of Shefford county, I wish to offer my most sincere thanks to the Minister of Agriculture for his co-operation during the fiscal year coming to a close. The agricultural class as well as all the people of my constituency are very grateful to him.

I want to tell the Minister of Transport (Mr. Chevrier) how very grateful I am for his co-operation in giving to the people of my constituency an adequate railway service.

I wish also to offer my thanks to all the ministers who have always helped me and supported me in one way or another.