

ernment and against any improvement made in this country, when I made that statement in the broadcast, I was simply stating a simple fact. What is more, there is not an hon. member who heard the right hon. gentleman's address yesterday who does not realize how sound was that statement which I made. I repeat, why blacken Canadian history? Why disparage the position of this country amongst the peoples of the world? Why endeavour to make it appear that this country is suffering to a greater extent than it is, when people outside Canada, who are viewing the situation here dispassionately, observing our progress, and seeing what we are doing, point to Canada and say, "That country occupies the brightest position of any nation in the world to-day."

Here are hon. gentlemen wailing, wailing, wailing while foreigners who look on disinterestedly and see our progress are glad to think that this country in the northern half of the American continent has made the progress it has. It is time that hon. gentlemen opposite realized the fact that the people of Canada fully appreciate this progress and are thankful for it. Why therefore should hon. gentlemen wish, in their reckless opposition to the government, regardless of what happens to the reputation of this country, to blacken Canada's position in order to maintain their thesis that this government is all bad and entitled to no credit for any good. That is their position.

Further, when attention has been directed to these matters in times past they have not desisted but have rested their case on an effort to vilify and libel and slander and attack, by every means in their power, the leader of the government. That is what they have done. In constituency after constituency they have gone out and endeavoured to do—what?

Mr. HANBURY: Win elections.

Mr. BENNETT: Exactly. And then the right hon. gentleman talks about chivalry, as he did yesterday. Let him read the speeches made by his principal supporters; let him read the statements that have been made on the public platform, and then let him talk about chivalry. Chivalry! Why, it is a word unknown in his vocabulary except to mouth in this house for the purpose of advancing his own political fortunes—a word misunderstood and unknown. Yesterday afternoon the right hon. gentleman spoke of our having shown disrespect to the crown in introducing these measures in the way in which we did. Well, I will say this, Mr. Speaker. If the right hon.

gentleman desires to deliver any lecture on that point, I suggest that he go to Queens park, Toronto, and address his remarks to his right lieutenant. And if he has any qualms of conscience about doing that, let him cast his memory back over the past and think of the general election of 1926 in which his supporters went to and fro throughout the country, trying to make the people believe that Downing street was interfering with the domestic affairs of the Dominion of Canada, when he himself, on the 28th day of June, had written a letter to the then Governor General, Lord Byng, asking him to refer a matter to Downing street, which His Excellency refused to do. The right hon. gentleman talks about disrespect and discourtesy to the crown. Let there be no talk of discourtesy to the crown, nor any talk about chivalry when it comes to a matter of that kind.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Will the Prime Minister read the letter he has referred to?

Mr. BENNETT: He will read this part of it.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Read the whole of it.

Mr. BENNETT: No, he does not intend to read the whole of it; he will just read such part as that to which he referred:

If there is anything which, having regard to my responsibilities as Prime Minister, I can even yet do to avert such a deplorable and possibly far-reaching crisis, I shall be glad so to do, and shall be pleased to have my resignation withheld at Your Excellency's request pending the time it may be necessary for Your Excellency to communicate with the Secretary of State for the Dominions.

The right hon. gentleman, by a single word, could have stopped that agitation against the representative of the crown; he could have read that letter. But he fed on it, he lived on it, he appealed on it to the passions and the prejudices of the Canadian people.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: On a question of privilege. When the Prime Minister says I made use of any letter which at any time I wrote to the Governor General—

Mr. BENNETT: That is what I said.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: —I say that I made no reference at any time during the campaign referred to, to any communication, nor did any member of the party other than members of the ministry have any knowledge of any communication, that passed between the Governor General and myself, and I still ask the Prime Minister to read the entire letter, from which he has quoted only an excerpt. I regarded the correspondence at the time as confidential.