

Scarcely any one can read that law and know what it means. I question whether my hon. friend, for whose opinion I have a profound respect, would, after reading that law, give us an opinion which he would himself call an intelligible opinion on the subject. As a layman perhaps it would be presumptuous to put my opinion against that of a lawyer, but when I looked at the incongruous character of the law itself, I came to the conclusion the government would change it themselves. One good point about the law is that the man who attends to his duty will get the largest amount of indemnity, and those who come at the beginning of the session and spend a few days here, taking advantage of the concessions made in the old law, will receive a smaller amount. If it has this effect, it will be gratifying, and I am sure every member who has been in the habit of attending to his sessional duties, will know that the man who remains at home is not going to fill his pockets to the same extent as the man who attends continuously and intelligently to the business of the country. I have other matters that I should refer to, but I have spoken already at much greater length than I intended. The questions will come up before the Senate, no doubt before it rises, and whether I occupy this seat or a seat somewhere else, I shall reserve for myself a right to take advantage of my position to discuss these questions as they present themselves to me. There are points in connection with other questions which are worthy of consideration of the whole of us, and I hope, in the language of the address itself, that these questions will be approached with wisdom and moderation. Let us forget in dealing with these questions which are not of a purely political character, that we are here for the purpose of trying to perfect legislation and let us put down, Grit or Tory, our foot firmly against the railroading through of Bills of a very important character involving millions of money in about ten or fifteen minutes under suspension of rules of the House. All I can say is, if health and strength permit, I am going to join my hon. friend—we do not pull together in harness very often—from Wellington, in protesting if we are here at the close of the session, against any such conduct as characterized the proceedings of this House at the close of

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last session of parliament. All I can say is that if health and strength permit I am going to join my hon. friend from Wellington in protesting at the close of the session if we are here, against any such conduct as last session of parliament. Let us deal with public questions as sensible men, with wisdom and moderation, and we shall be respected rather than condemned by the public and the press.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT.—I am quite sure I voice the opinions of hon. gentlemen on this side of the House in expressing our gratification at finding the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat occupying his old position. He has filled that position with dignity and with the approval of this House generally for the past nine years. We are glad to note too that he is in good form and voice notwithstanding the years that are being added to the long term during which he has served the public. I sincerely hope that for many years to come we may have the opportunity of hearing from the hon. gentleman, who I believe is sincerely anxious to see that all measures which come before the Chamber shall receive proper attention, and if they are not, in his judgment, in the best interests of the public, he certainly will candidly give us his opinion to that effect.

I desire to congratulate the mover and seconder on the very excellent manner in which they have discharged the delicate task assigned to them. The hon. senator from Lethbridge (Hon. Mr. DeVeber) is evidently no novice in discussing public questions. He has had eight years experience in the local legislatures, and I have no doubt we will find from time to time that the opinions he has formed during his long experience there will be a very great advantage in discussing questions which may come up affecting that important part of the Dominion. My honourable friend from New Glasgow (Hon. Mr. McGregor) has been in this Chamber for some years. We have all learned to respect the dignified, frank and fair way in which he discusses all public questions. He does not give us long speeches, but what he does say is to the point and good sound sense.

The speech from the Throne, imitating the speech which was delivered a short time ago in the imperial parliament, pro-