

difficult for a private citizen to get at the actual expenditures that are made on particular public services.

Certain other subjects are faintly adumbrated in the Speech from the Throne. I think we are promised something like scientific research; at least it is in the air. Further than that, there is some suggestion of the development of the St. Lawrence; but owing to the fact that this matter has gone to the Courts, it may not be one for early disposition by Parliament.

Then there is the question of provincial rights. It is a little difficult to say what the Government propose doing on that question, because it covers not only such matters as the control of natural resources by the Northwest Provinces, but also various dealings with the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. However, until the Government bring down something specific, I do not think it is possible for any man to say more than that they will be expected to carry out their promises in accordance with the Duncan report; but until they produce something definite it is impossible for any one to say just what they are doing.

Another subject on which I feel rather strongly is with regard to government embassies in foreign countries. I have my own views on that subject. I never believed in them, and do not believe in them now. I think there is a great deal of danger connected with embassies. No one can say what may happen any day. An embassy in a foreign country is a ticklish thing, for an ambassador may say or do something that will get the Government into trouble. We have only to look across the line and remember a letter that was written by a British ambassador during an election. He got his congé the next day. Such trouble has happened more than once on the other side of the line. If you have embassies in Tokio, in France, or in the United States, one of those representatives may do an indiscreet thing, and what are we going to do about it? We are in no position to deal with such a situation like an independent nation that has her own army and her own navy. The whole thing reminds me of the dog grasping at the shadow: there is nothing to it at all. There is nothing at all to justify us in establishing these embassies. They will involve us in a great deal of expense, \$100,000 here and \$200,000 there, all of which will help to increase taxation. What we could very well afford to have in all these foreign countries is a first-class business man, and a staff, who would set to work to develop our trade. By

what is proposed, what will we get? If you go to Washington, for instance, what happens? Letter-writing begins, and it takes a week or ten days to get at something that a trade commissioner could find out inside of an hour.

I had thought of referring to the development of the St. Lawrence, which is a very important matter, but inasmuch as it is before the courts, perhaps it is better to drop it for the present.

I want to say a word or two with regard to the scientific research which we are promised. Frankly, I may say that I am in favour of scientific research, upon a certain condition, namely, that it is conducted along lines that are not being followed by other nations who are as rich or richer than we are. You can get an illustration of duplication of research in our agricultural stations, and men in the other Chamber who know those stations will corroborate what I say. Take, for instance, the investigation into the growing and feeding of steers. It is simply nauseating. Every country in Europe has worked at that problem, every State in the American Union has worked at it, and every province in Canada has done likewise. It is a sort of monkey business—because one station does it, every other station follows suit. Then, from that they pass to egg-laying contests, which may be a good enough thing for one or two stations to work at; but it is ridiculous for them all to be at it, especially when the ground has already been covered in almost every civilized country in the world. They have struck the right note in England in this regard. There, in connection with the investigation of pests, it came to light that the Government of New Zealand were investigating in their institutions the extermination of certain pests, so the British Government said, "All right, you go ahead with that; we will drop it, and go on with something else." On condition that wisdom and common sense are used, I am in favour of scientific research. No country can expect to go ahead to-day that does not realize the value of science and scientific research; but let us mix with it some common sense instead of wasting our money in doing things that already have been done, or are being done by others, just as well as we can do them. Let us turn to something else, and then exchange ideas.

I wish to congratulate my honourable friend opposite (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) upon the very high position which he has attained, and I think rightly so, in the conclaves of the wise men of Europe. He has done honour to himself, to his country, and to this House—

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.