

Only last week, ^{as I have recounted to members} on his return from this continent, Mr. Churchill was faced with a motion of want of confidence in his administration. I have no doubt that most hon. members will have read the text of his speech on that motion. I should like, however, ^{to} remind the House of certain of the views and sentiments ^{Mr. Churchill} ~~be~~ expressed on that occasion, because of the light they throw on my own position.

"Everything", he said, "that can be thought of or raked up has been used to weaken confidence in the government; has been used to prove that the ministers are incompetent and to weaken their confidence in themselves." Of his own position as Prime Minister, he added, "to undermine him in his own heart and, if possible, before the eyes of the nation."

And later on he said: "Questions are asked, comments are made by individual members, or by independents, who represent no organized group of political power, which are cabled verbatim and often are honestly taken to be the opinion of Parliament."

Mr. Churchill added: "I naturally explained to my host that those who were voluble in Parliament in no way represent the House of Commons, just as a small handful of correspondents who make it their business to pour out damaging statements about us to the United States and, I may add, to Australia, in no way represent the honorable profession of journalism. I also explained all this would be put to the proof when I reported to the House of Commons."