

*The Address—Mr. Tremblay*

hon. Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. Crerar) who wasted no time in denying the rumour which a clamorous politician, well-known in the province of Quebec, circulated a few months ago with a great deal of publicity, in the constituency of Dorchester, if you please! The attitude adopted by the immigration branch in its last annual report which was tabled in the house to-day still seems to me the only one that is reasonable and logical:

It is recognized everywhere that Canada must first of all look after the reestablishment of the members of her armed forces and their families, and at the same time direct Canadian war industries towards peace-time enterprises. Only after the war shall we be able to understand the full import of this task.

Further on, I find the following:

Canada should not make the mistake of giving preference to transportation over settlement, mistake which has occurred in the past. Some people think that at the very moment, it is possible to draw up plans which would even include figures; others believe that only time and the economic development of the country will solve this problem.

Without the shadow of a doubt, I belong to the latter class, and I say that until the time when we have reinstated our fighting men in civilian life and found for each one of them some remunerative and useful employment, it ill becomes these transportation magnates to speak to us of immigration.

Mr. Speaker, another figure, and a very eminent one in all respects, has recently made some untimely declarations which caused a great deal of press comment and gossip in general. Indeed! I am no great statesman, and still less of a diplomat, but like all my fellow-citizens, I love my country, I am proud of its history and I dream of a wonderful future for it. I want Canada to be great, I want her beautiful, I want her strong and vigorous, I want her prosperous, and I want her always to be united. She has developed scores of remarkable men, heroes and saints. Divine Providence has always willed that at the very heart of our nation there should be statesmen, leaders, able to guide the country towards its most glorious destiny, and long may it be so!

Why, then, must distinguished personages, hailing from across the Atlantic, come to us from time to time and with look inspired and an air of mystery, shower upon us instructions which we shall term indiscreet to say the least? The latest edition of these mysterious travelers is attempting, it seems, to refloat the foundered ship of the Imperial Federation.

If such is the case—but I will have you note, Mr. Speaker, that I am no prophet, that my eye is not veiled in mystery and that I

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am not actuated by mystical inspiration—but if such is the case, may I, speaking simply as a Canadian, tell this distinguished but indiscreet gentleman that in the year of grace 1944, just as in 1897 and in 1902, that to-day as in the time of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, "this sugar-coated pill portends nothing good." And I trust that, just as the Canadianism of Laurier triumphed over the Imperialism of Chamberlain, so to-day that of King will outwit the intrigues of Halifax.

Mr. W. A. TUCKER (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the motion which has just been moved so ably and eloquently by the hon. member for Dorchester (Mr. Tremblay). To be asked to move this motion I have always considered a great honour and privilege. It is doubly so on this occasion, moved as it was, by a very dear old friend and comrade in arms.

I should like at the outset to express to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) my thanks for the honour he has done to the constituency of Rosthern in asking me to second this motion. The federal riding of Rosthern is a new constituency, set up in 1933 from four former constituencies, and has been represented in this house by many distinguished men. However, the part in which I live enjoys what is probably a unique distinction, in that it has been privileged to elect to this house two prime ministers. It started out in 1896, as part of the old constituency of Saskatchewan, by electing the great leader of the Liberal party, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and in 1926 it elected to this house the present Prime Minister. If I could leave out of account, Mr. Speaker, the present member, I would say that my friends and neighbours of Rosthern certainly know how to pick their representatives.

(Translation): From my earliest youth, I have learned to admire the beloved figure of one of our greatest statesmen, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. When I became a member of this house, I soon realized and felt that among my good friends were to be found many of my French speaking colleagues, and in particular the honourable and distinguished member who has just moved the motion of which I am the seconder. For many years I sat in this house with the late Right Honourable Mr. Lapointe, and I acquired the conviction that he was a very distinguished leader and a great Canadian. I have also learned about the large share which the French speaking Canadians have had in the development of our Canada. I mean the valiant pioneers who came and built their homes in the loneliness of the forests, the brave missionaries who risked death and tor-