

Rouge, where to-day the city of Winnipeg stands, Fort Dauphin on the northwest point of the lake by that name and Fort Bourbon, at the outlet of the Biche river. On January 1, 1743, he came in sight of the Rocky Mountains, a marvel to gaze upon, and like Christopher Columbus intent on discovering a new world, he found himself beneath new skies. He had incurred debts to the extent of £40,000 and had not yet reached the goal of his dreams, that western ocean separating America from Asia. However it was a new world, the unbounded world of the far off prairies, rich in resources and which later on was to become, thanks to the efforts of our pioneers of the West, that marvellous ocean of wheat whose waves of golden sheaves contribute to the feeding of a large portion of the globe and to the wealth of our country. His footsteps had led him towards those fertile regions, represented to-day by our hon. western colleagues, that section of the country which was for a long time, and which will again be, let us hope, the granary of the world, thanks to the sound policy of the right hon. Prime Minister, the most brilliant representative of the Canadian west.

La Vérendrye to achieve this splendid result had to fight against natural obstacles, the bitter cold, the oppression of heat, the depression of fatigue, against the hostilities of men, the spitefulness of his rivals, the discouragement of his companions, against himself, against doubt, this ever terrifying doubt, the negation of endeavour, the chilling of all energy. Let us not forget that in order to help our country to weather the crisis through which it is passing, we must energetically fight, that struggle is part of life. And as Victor Hugo stated in his immortal verses:

Ceux qui vivent, ce sont ceux qui luttent: ce
sont
Ceux dont un dessein ferme emplit l'âme et
le front
Ceux qui d'un haut destin gravissent l'âpre
cime
Ceux qui marchant pensifs épris d'un but
sublime
Ayant devant les yeux sans cesse, nuit et
jour
Ou quelque saint labeur on quelque grand
amour.

At the outset of his glorious but too short a reign, Edward VII said:

So long as I have a breath of life in me,
I shall labour for the good of my people,

and on his death bed he whispered:

I have tried to do my duty.

It behooves us to imitate, as much as possible, this splendid example, so as to ensure the greatness and progress of our common country.

[Mr. Bourgeois.]

Perhaps I may be permitted, Mr. Speaker, to conclude these remarks with a few words in my imperfect English for which I should apologize in advance to this hon. house.

As hon. members are aware, the population of Three Rivers and Shawinigan Falls includes a considerable body of English speaking citizens. They are a great asset and because of what they have in common with my compatriots in the community life, as well as what may be considered to be their own traditional characteristics and attainments, they bring a large contribution to the welfare, progress and happiness of the city of Laviolette and its district. I am glad to say that much of the remarkable development in our economic and social activities has been due to them, to their acquired wealth, to their initiative and enterprise and to their virtues. What I wish particularly to make known, as sincerely and cordially as I can in their own tongue, is the pride and gratefulness I felt when, on the evening of my election it became apparent that the great majority of the English speaking element had cast their votes in favour of the present member for Three Rivers. They have conferred upon me an honour which is fully appreciated, and I desire first to thank them for the trust they have reposed in me. I might perhaps add: the trustfulness of man grows with the trust.

Three Rivers does not enjoy in this difficult time the full prosperity which marked the condition of her industrial life in recent years. We have been suffering from the universal depression; our principal industries have been deeply affected. But everyone remains confident that these hours of stress will soon pass and that in the near future the city and district will rise again as active and prosperous as ever. Everyone has an eye to the great opportunities which are bound to be in store for Three Rivers. It may be pointed out in this connection that the policies of the present government which I support seem to be beginning to make themselves felt in our midst since a new company of considerable importance, The Canadian Industries has been established in Shawinigan Falls and the Canada Iron Foundries is just opening up in Three Rivers a new plant to manufacture valves for water pipes and hydrants.

What is taking place in that constituency is, as a matter of fact, only one of the signs which are already to be found elsewhere in Canada. As the right honourable premier said recently in Toronto, one hundred new manufactories have been opened in the course