

people attracted, particular attention and encouragement ought to be given to the production in Canada of articles of peculiar excellence—flour, or steel, or whatever they may be—that are better than can be produced anywhere else. I absolutely agree with the honourable gentleman who has just spoken (Hon. Mr. Robertson), and with many others, that we must not lower the standard of living in Canada, and in the development of our export trade, which it seems to me is absolutely necessary, particularly in its higher forms, we shall have to meet the competition of goods produced by people who have long developed skill and are content to live at a lower standard than our own people.

The essentials of commercial success are materials, invention, capital, and administration. What have we in these things? We have an ample supply of the raw materials: so can pass them by. The credit of Canada is such that we can attract the necessary capital. Under the heading of invention come science and technical skill in producing articles of the best quality. The telephone began in Canada. One of the great advances in the discovery of radio activity was made about twenty years ago in the laboratories of McGill University. These and many other examples show that we have in Canada a creditable share of inventive genius. The next requirement is good administration, whether in large or in small enterprises; and I think there are enough successes in Canada in every phase of our productive activity to show that we have people capable of that type of administration. In this respect it is of the highest importance that our schools and universities should train our people to transact business intelligently.

The research that has been carried on by many of our scientific workers has had a beneficent effect on our trade. For example, the discoveries made by Canadian investigators have practically eliminated, or are in process of eliminating disease in codfish, which was seriously hurting our business. I am glad to be able to congratulate the Government on their determination to increase largely the assistance given to scientific research. That in its higher phases will promote invention, which can be utilized not only for the development of production and trade in Canada, but also for the benefit of the whole world of science. I trust that the support given by the Government to scientific research will be trammelled as little as possible by departmental supervision.

The character of our people is such that we can look forward with interest, with hope,

and with confidence to the future. We have inherited great traditions; from the French as explorers, from the British in their maritime experience and in their capacity to overcome difficulties and to deal quietly and on good terms with other races. These are real advantages, and if we set out to conquer outside markets by providing goods which will hold a place in those markets, there is no doubt that we shall succeed.

In speaking on the Address it is customary to congratulate the mover and the seconder. That I can do with real pleasure. As they are both modest, I will not amplify the reasons for doing so, especially as those reasons have been so felicitously and accurately stated by the honourable leaders of the House.

Another thing that seems de rigueur in this debate is to say something about the representation of Canada in foreign countries. That is a matter which we shall have further opportunities to discuss, and I think the honourable leader ought to be in a position to tell us exactly what is meant and what is proposed by the policy of the Government. There seemed to be certain reasons for the appointment of a minister at Washington, but I am inclined to believe that everybody in the country who was not in the secrets of the Government was completely surprised at the announcement that we were to have diplomatic representatives also in Tokio and in Paris. We should know how far this matter of diplomatic representation is to go, and until we know it we cannot intelligently and properly deal with the question. We should know whether the appointments are to be truly diplomatic; that is to say, whether the positions of the representatives that we send abroad are to be like those in the British and other services. Are the qualifications to be based on experience in diplomacy, or must they be political? Will an official be allowed to remain for years in the diplomatic service, or are we to adopt the system carried on by the Americans for a hundred years, and now abandoned except in the case of their great embassies, of changing the officials with every change of administration? These are important questions, and I think that sound decisions on them would reconcile many people to this unexpected extension. Another point that ought to be very fully considered by the Government, and on which they ought to inform us, is whether or not they intend, when so much is heard of democracy, to