

the same in their ambitions and their standards of living; one a high tariff country, the other a medium. The cost of living in the United States to-day is on the average less than in Canada.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: That is disputed.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Prove it. The cost of living in the United States is to-day less than in Canada. The standard of wages earned by workmen in the United States to-day is on the average higher than in Canada.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: And that is one explanation of the exodus of so many Canadian men. In addition to their being unable to get employment at home at any price, there are inducements for them to cross the line because of better opportunities. Now, is the lower cost of living or are the greater opportunities for employment due to a low tariff or free trade policy? Surely they are not.

Let us take another example. There are two great nations almost side by side across the water, namely, France and England. France, I understand, has added to her tariff in some instances as much as 60 per cent during the past couple of years. England has not done so. What is the situation in those two countries to-day? France has had an immigration of 1,500,000 people; every industry is humming; nobody is unemployed; and the cost of living is substantially lower in France to-day than it is in England, a free-trade country, with 1,200,000 people in need of bread and accepting doles from the Government.

In the face of such object lessons as these, one cannot logically, in my opinion, come to any other conclusion than that we have not prospered in Canada during 1924 as we might have done had some of the experiments that I have referred to not been indulged in; and sincerely hope that the Government will at least not further hamper or disturb business conditions this year. We might, on the other hand, hope that they would improve the situation were it not that in the face of their commitments that is impossible to expect.

The Speech from the Throne is probably just as conspicuous for what it does not say as for what it does say. There are some important questions occupying the minds of the Canadian people to-day that are not mentioned at all in the Speech; and, knowing so well the modesty and retiring disposition of my honourable friend opposite, the honourable leader of the Government in this House

(Hon. Mr. Dandurand), I feel inclined to raise a point in order that he may have an opportunity to give us facts and an explanation on a question that I know most people in Canada do not understand and on which many of us are indeed at sea at the present moment. I refer to the result of the Conference which my honourable friend recently attended at Geneva, where the now famous Protocol was evolved and came into existence, with the approval and support, I understand, of my honourable friend. This is the result of a reparations conference that was previously held in England, last summer, at which, I think, the honourable the senior member from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Belcourt) represented the Canadian Government. As an outcome of that important conference it was decided to hold another at Geneva to deal with the question of providing further for the permanent maintenance of international peace, and the Protocol, which is now a famous document, was the result. If I understand its contents and purport correctly, it provides that after its ratification by the various countries the League of Nations is to be clothed with absolute and arbitrary power either to maintain or enforce the decrees of the League of Nations. In other words, if a dispute arises in Czecho-Slovakia over boundary questions, or in China or anywhere else, the armies and navies of the world are to be at the disposal of that central body. If that be the fact, I would like to have my honourable friend give us a history of the negotiations in detail and some explanation of just why those results were arrived at.

Turning again to something that the Speech does contain, may I refer briefly to the question of immigration? I have referred to the emigration question, and also, indeed, to the question of immigration so far as it relates to people coming into Canada, and I will not labour that; but we have a migration going on within Canada because of seasonal requirements, and I want to say to the House and to the Government that I think there is room for very substantial improvement in this regard. It is an improvement that is needed, and if brought about it will go a long way towards improving the relationships and the sentiments existing between various sections of this great country. Every year for probably forty years there has been a call from the golden West to the men in the East, "Come out and help us reap the harvest." Without that aid the harvest in some cases could not have been