

is specially in the building trade that the crisis was felt more acutely. However, of late, we have noticed in this essential industry a marked progress, for instance in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver and in other localities. The same progress is noticeable in most of our industries, so that the future may be viewed more serenely.

In order to further secure our prosperity, we must have a larger population which will increase our output and take its share of the burden which we carry. It is not that empty cradles are to be feared in Canada, especially in our good old province of Quebec where it is customary for our spouses to generously respond to our patriotism; however, the immigration contribution is not what we might expect. A remedy must be found. The government has given proof of its solicitude for this all important subject. It will promote a sound agricultural immigration and in the same way endeavour to repatriate our people.

It is not sufficient, Mr. Speaker, to greet a person on his landing in this country, to offer him all the material advantages possible; we must moreover, and I lay stress on this point, create in the new comer a state of mind in harmony with the ideals of the new country which he has adopted and, Sir, such a mission belongs to us all.

In order that a people may exist and attain nationhood, an ideal which can create a national spirit is indispensable. Let us teach our new settlers the noble deeds of our history, whether in past or present times. Let them draw from those pages filled with great accomplishments the determination and will to ever be, before and above all things, a member of the great Canadian family.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, if our economic conditions require that we should increase our population, the conditions which prevail in our industries and regulate our agricultural interests demand equally that our trade policy should find new outlets on foreign markets. In this connection, Sir, the country rejoices in the initiative taken by the government which, returning to its policy of the past, has renewed commercial conventions with France and Italy. Our gratitude is secured to those ministers, to whom the government so confided these missions, the hon. Minister of Finance, the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries and the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce. The government, Mr. Speaker, has endeavoured to establish the wealth of this country upon the basis of a prudent and rational use of our resources. To promote the agricultural interests, protect the con-

sumer, maintain and encourage the industries that we have so patiently established; such is its aim. The people of Canada rely again with confidence on the distinguished leader of the government, a noted statesman and a wise economist and, also on the eminent men with whom he has associated himself, so as to fulfil their hopes, perpetuate these traditions of progress and lead our dear Canada towards the high destinies which await her. I have the honour to second the motion of the hon. member from Colchester (Mr. Putnam).

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the motion recurring each session, moved to-day by the hon. member for Colchester (Mr. Putnam), and seconded by the hon. member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Rhéaume) has received at the hands of both these gentlemen that courteous, brief and moderately non-partisan treatment that does honour, not only to the motion, but to themselves. I heartily congratulate the hon. member for Colchester on having, in a brief space of time, covered in language of precision and of dignity all that could be expected to be referred to on the motion, some things, indeed, on which the Speech from the Throne is silent. I am afraid I did not detect in his utterances any sign of the loosening of those hard Maritime partisan bonds, nor of the intrusion of light into the prejudices of the past; but nevertheless he spoke well and with credit to himself. The hon. member for Jacques Cartier is to be welcomed into this House to-day for the first time. He comes from a historic constituency, one that stands now far to the front of the progressive, prosperous districts of this country. His speech this afternoon indicates that, in point of standing as an orator, he worthily represents the great constituency from which he comes. May my words of welcome extend as well to the other new members of Parliament? In the most of cases, we regret that new members are necessary from those districts; but they will receive at the hands of those of us longer here a courteous and cordial greeting in this House.

We meet now under circumstances new in another regard. One of the great parties of this House has lost its erstwhile leader, he having severed that association with his party that he may devote himself more to other occupations. I shall not comment on any circumstances connected with that severance now. I refer to it only for the purpose of welcoming to the ranks of leadership the hon. member for Brandon (Mr. Forke), who has been signally honoured by his fellows in an early elevation to that office. Rarely does the prize of leadership come after so brief an