

Let me express a feeling which I experience as I go from one part of the country to another. I was down in the Maritimes not long ago, and down that way we see a lot of people who are known as the McDonalds, the McKinnons, the McLarens, the McLeans, the McCreas and the Camerons, some of whose ancestors I suppose came over on the Hector, some of them no doubt descendants of Wolfe's Highlanders who fought on the plains of Abraham. Very good for their lineage and where they came from, but let me implore these people in the Maritimes to remember that first and foremost to-day they are Canadians!

Coming just a little farther west we find in the province of Quebec the Archambaults, the Belands, the Bouchers, the Bourassas, the Denis', the Lauriers, the Marcils, and the Lemieuxs—French-Canadians they like to call themselves when they are in the province of Quebec, Canadians they were perhaps long before some of the rest of us. But to-day let them forget they are French-Canadians and remember that they too are Canadians!

Going out over the western plains and beyond, we find in British Columbia the descendants of those ex-soldiers of the British Empire who settled in the Okanagan valley, those rugged men in the mines that the hon. member for West Kootenay (Mr. Humphrey) was speaking about. Let these people remember that they too are Canadians!

To my friends from the western provinces let me also say: You have not been Canadians as long perhaps as some of the rest of us, but get in line with us as quick as you can. Do not forget that you have not been very long in this country.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Who.

Mr. HARRIS: I could name them. One of them is smiling at me now as I look them over. You have not been very long in this country, and you have done mighty well since you have been here. It is a pretty good country for you, and we welcome you and are glad to have you. But do not try to tell some of the older inhabitants what we ought to do. Get in line with us and help us to bring this country to the place where she belongs! Line up!

Mr. FORKE: May I ask how long the hon. member has been a Canadian?

Mr. HARRIS: I do not know anything different. I was born within a few yards of where I now live, in the centre of an eighty-six-acre farm, which to-day is peopled within every thirty-foot lot by home-loving people,

[Mr. Harris.]

with paved streets through the whole of it, I have stuck right to the place where I was born, and I hope I shall still remain there. But I know what is running through my hon. friend's mind. He thinks "what were your progenitors?" Like a good many more people in the old province of Ontario, I happen to be a descendant of an Englishman, from Bedfordshire, a man who came over here on a cattle boat and earned his first Canadian dollar right on the same street where he lives now. He has worked hard and has done reasonably well for a man who never went to school. He raised a family of nine children. I would hesitate to say how many grandchildren he has, but it is quite a number. Not only that, when I think of the rest of his lineage, I recall one brother with ten children near my own riding—that is why I get such a large majority. I think of another uncle in Australia, with seventeen children. There is only one other member of the family, and he is out west, and has eleven children. Yes, and when I think of my own immediate family, I can find a lead for me to follow, for the one next to me has seven children, and is still going strong. I have four myself, and I am the youngest man in this house.

Mr. Speaker, when I was interrupted I had said something on behalf of Canada with regard to every province perhaps except that keystone to the whole arch of our Canadian civilization, the province of Ontario—Ontario with the descendants of English, Irish and Scotch stock, with her people who have in their makeup British ideals and traditions—Ontario is ready and always has been ready to march in line with all the other provinces of this Dominion to bring Canada to her destiny. Ontario always has been ready to move forward for the sake of Canada, and if we in Canada can get into our minds that we to-day are a Canadian people, a Canadian race, having in our makeup that ideal which is absolutely necessary, that through the history of civilization for the last eight hundred years or more we have found one dominating factor which has been the greatest agency for good to civilization, and that factor is that the British commonwealth of nations has been able to maintain itself and deal justly with every one she has come in contact with—so long as we remember that we are the Canadian race of people, and if we determine to remain firmly within the ambit of the Britannic commonwealth, realizing that in order to carry forward our ideals, we must maintain our place within the empire, then in my opinion, Mr. Speaker, we shall fulfil our destiny.