The Address-Mr. Bradette

I also wish to say a few words of praise concerning the present Prime Minister of this country. I wish to praise him for many reasons, but the primary one is that he was a man with a successful law practice, highly honoured in his province, who was practically conscripted. We all know the circumstances. He answered the call diligently and loyally. It was not very long before this parliament and this nation fully realized the stature of this fine man, with his broad vision and his true Canadianism. I know Canada was proud when last August the Liberal party chose him as its leader. I know Canada feels secure at the present time in the fine leadership he has already given as Prime Minister of this country.

I should like to say a few words about the new leader of the Progressive Conservative I was proud of his nomination as leader of that national party. One of the reasons for my pride is the fact that I am an Ontarian. He has made some sacrifices in coming into this field because, as you all know, he was certainly successful in so far as provincial politics were concerned. The hon, gentleman resigned his position as premier of the province of Ontario. So long as it is possible to have men of that calibre enter the field of national politics, this country as a whole does not need to worry very much. It is a sign that there is something great; there is something for which a man is willing to make the necessary personal sacrifices to enter this field. When one considers the actions of the right hon. the Prime Minister of this country and the leader of the Progressive Conservative party, I repeat, people do not need to worry about the future of Canada. It should be secure.

I should like to make a few remarks about the past leader of the Progressive Conservative party. I get mixed up in trying to say the name of that party because my father was a Conservative in the days when they were only Conservatives. I wish to pay him a tribute. Regardless of what publicity may say about the new leader of his party, I do not think the leadership will be more dignified or more Canadian than the leadership he gave. I say that sincerely. No doubt he has brought a lot of his own fine, strong colour, which was mostly Liberal, into the ranks of the Progressive Conservative party. This parliament and the nation as a whole has benefited from his actions as leader of that great party.

May I say a word concerning a new member who has great physical size, and also, it has been stated, great mental stature. I wish to pay tribute to the new member for Digby-Annapolis-Kings (Mr. Nowlan). Before the election he received some praise, not only from the Ottawa Journal, which is a Con-

servative newspaper, but from all newspapers in the maritimes that knew him. It was said he was a well qualified man, highly respected in those sections of Canada which had the opportunity of knowing and appreciating him.

I should like to say a few words about another physical giant who lately came to this house, the hon. member for Rosthern (Mr. Boucher). May I say to him that his predecessor was highly respected by every section of the house. He sometimes found it possible to arouse the ire of hon. members opposite but, at the same time, no one doubted his sincerity. I know that the present member must possess a large measure of his fine qualities.

At this point, I should like to say a few words about the hon. member for Laval-Two Mountains (Mr. Demers). I may have to repeat my words concerning him when I speak about the mover and seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I should like to compliment him on his maiden effort in this house. He spoke as a true Canadian, and as a man who believes absolutely in national unity. He impressed me as a man who is not going to follow the current, but will breast the head wind. The House of Commons needs men of that calibre. It is always easier to follow the line of least resistance. I know the hon, member for Laval-Two Mountains will never do that because he will follow his own personal inclinations and his own Canadianism.

I should like to say a few words about the new Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson). At this point I find it necessary to answer certain sections of the press who seem to be under the impression that we backbenchers of the Liberal party were impatient at the government for bringing new members into this field. The truth is far from that, because after all, the whole is more important than any part. I praise the government for finding it possible to bring into government circles men of the calibre of the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Garson). I believe it is the duty of all parties, under any conditions or circumstances, to bring into public life all possible talents of statesmanship. Speaking for myself as well as for the backbenchers, may I say again that we are proud and glad to have within our ranks men of the calibre of those I have just mentioned.

May I also say a word of praise about the member for Marquette (Mr. Garson), the Minister of Justice. Although some sections of the house did not entirely agree with what he said yesterday, all members must have seen in him a real Canadian who will work, not only for provincial autonomy, but also