

the opening of the session, and the proposed amendment thereto of Mr. Sutherland (South Oxford).

Mr. J. A. FRASER (Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, before resuming my remarks on the particular subject now under discussion, may I refer to an interesting event which occurred no later than yesterday. Hon. gentlemen opposite were kind enough last evening to show their appreciation of various remarks of mine by their applause. Now I should like to congratulate them on the successful termination of the election in the constituency of Prince Albert. May I say, in all sincerity, that I recognize the Prime Minister as an outstanding man in Canada. He is a man of conspicuous ability and capacity in the administration of public affairs. Like myself the right hon. gentleman is a Canadian, and speaking as a Canadian I am very proud of Mr. King as Prime Minister of this country.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. FRASER: I wonder if hon. gentlemen opposite would have paid a tribute of that kind to my leader had he been in the same position.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Surely.

Mr. FRASER: Now that hon. gentlemen opposite are in such a good humour it might be opportune to inform them what they look like from this side of the House. The boot is now on the other foot, and the Liberal party with all due respect to every member of it looks like a second-hand dilapidated motor car, ambling round this parliament on four flat tires, with a broken steering gear and hitting on one cylinder. Hon. gentlemen opposite have sent to Prince Albert and repaired their steering gear and have done it handsomely. The next thing I advise hon. gentlemen opposite to do is to send to the Massey-Harris firm for a set of spark plugs; but for goodness sake let them not ask us to adjourn this House in order that they may be able to purchase and inflate a new set of tires.

Having got the House into a pretty good humour and having exchanged compliments across the floor, I will proceed now to the business which I was sent here to attend to, and that is to have the hon. members on the opposite side of the House sent over to this side as quickly as possible.

I referred last night to mining matters generally throughout Canada, and I will now discuss more particularly the amendment before the House, which has particular reference to tariff matters as they apply to the trade and commerce of Canada. Whatever may

[Mr. Lapointe.]

have been the main feature of the election in any other part of the Dominion, so far as the district of Cariboo is concerned hon. gentlemen will understand that the principal feature in the campaign, without any manner of doubt, was the tariff question. It was the outstanding issue in Cariboo and I believe in British Columbia. I am not so sure of British Columbia as a whole and therefore will confine myself to my own district. In my opinion that question decided the election. The people in my district are certainly interested in tariff matters; when you apply the incidence of the tariff to the different occupations of the people in that district, they are certainly interested and will listen to you, and if you present the issue in a proper way, as I did, you will see the result. I desire particularly to discuss this tariff question as it applies to the agricultural industry. My hon. friends on the other side as well as the other groups, go around the country when tariff measures are under discussion and try to terrify the people about the Conservatives and the Conservative policy by telling them that we are the favourites of the big interests, that the tariff question is not one which has any application to the prosperity of the ordinary individual, the farmer or labourer, but that it only adds to the notoriously large profits of the corporations and big businessmen. That is the outstanding feature of the talk we hear from the Grits when an election is being held. I desire to be very specific in this, and I say that that is not a proper interpretation of the tariff policy of the Conservative party at all. As I understand it, the Conservative party does not favour high protection. That party favours a fair measure of protection to everybody and every interest.

An hon. MEMBER: Adequate protection.

Mr. FRASER: I will give the hon. member a better word than that—something else which he can talk about. The Conservatives are not a high tariff party. We are not in favour of a low tariff but fair tariff.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. FRASER: I am glad to see that I still continue to get applause from both sides of the House. That being the generally accepted policy of some of our Liberal friends, why not give us a hand to assist us to put it into effect?

An hon. MEMBER: Why do you not do so?

Mr. FRASER: If my hon. friends were over here, as they are going to be in a short time, we might be able to do it. I desire particularly to refer to the application of this