

they recollect—and I think they do—that since 1911 great events have taken place in the world. Many influences have quickened as I hope will be apparent to all in a short time, the process of the nations of the world coming closer to one another, because if there is one thing, Mr. Speaker, that the war taught us it is that the proper relationship between nations is not independence, is not strife, but is interdependence. The war has taught us that no nation, as no man, lives to itself alone; and I repeat the hope that this resolution does not constitute the high-water mark of fiscal zeal on the part of the official Opposition. I feel confident that in supporting this resolution we here incidentally will give great satisfaction to the people of the part of the country from which we come.

I referred just now to my hon. friend from Macdonald (Mr. Henders) and expressed the earnest hope that on that account as well as on account of his well known fiscal opinions, he would vote for this resolution; I know he would like to do so. And my hon. friend on his right, who comes from Dauphin (Mr. Cruise); I know that he would like to do so. And there is my hon. friend from the south-western part of my own province—a large-hearted man, a man who knows Western Canada and who is not scared of the Americans. My hon. friend from Macleod (Mr. Shaw)—I know that he in his heart is not afraid of Americans. He never used the language, "No truck or trade with the Yankees"; he and I in 1911 stood together supporting trade with the Yankees. I trust that while the world has been moving forward he has not been moving backward. Then there is my friend the gallant colonel who represents Skeena (Mr. Peck). We sat up through a whole night this week on opposite sides of a question. My heart goes out to my hon. friend, because during that night he declared that the pure free trade party in this House consisted now of two members, himself and myself. I ask him to give his tangible proof of the fact that this is not a mere verbal profession of faith on his part and that his large heart goes out to this resolution. There are others; there are gentlemen from Ontario who have been hitherto called Conservatives. I nearly missed my hon. friend from Bow River there (Mr. Halladay). He is my nearest neighbour in Alberta; I know where he is in his heart on the trade question. What an abominable thing this party politics is, after all. If these hon. gentle-

[Mr. M. Clark.]

men would only come to this free and independent and progressive portion of the House they could vote with one party at one time and with another at another, just as they had a mind to, and they would always then be voting on questions as to whether those questions we right or wrong, not with a view to retaining any Government in power, or—I hate the thought—perhaps, retaining their own positions for a little longer. But, of course, that is not present in their minds; I apologize for having given expression to the thought. But I do appeal for some fiscal consistency on the part of these hon. gentlemen. If they indicated that they were going to support the resolution, I believe the Government would tell us at once that it was not a vote of non-confidence and would give the House a free hand in the matter. However, we have not heard anything along that particular line. Now, my hon. friends will excuse my good-natured appeal to them. It is along the line of freer relationships between peoples, greater production of wealth and greater prosperity for every man, woman, and child in Canada, and for every man, woman, and child in the United States, at least to the extent to which it increases international trade.

Mr. J. W. EDWARDS (Frontenac): The hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Clark) has put a light in the window for certain hon. gentlemen on this side. I should have thought that the fate of that other light which was in the window some time ago would have deterred him from following along the same lines. The hon. gentleman, however, has given advice to hon. gentlemen on this side and has appealed for fiscal consistency. Well, as I look back over the record of the hon. gentleman himself since he came into the House, I fail to see how he can possibly appeal to any one on the ground of fiscal consistency. There is one ground on which he can appeal to any person here, and that is that he has jumped from one party to the other, from one seat in this House to another; he has been under every banner that has ever floated over this House of Parliament since he became a member of it. He has for thirteen years talked free trade, but he has never got up enough courage to move a resolution to test his theories in that regard.

The hon. member has referred to the adverse balance of trade as between Canada and the United States and has attributed it to the fact that Canada has