

The men who settled the county of Bruce, in fact the whole province of Ontario, were, like my father, immigrants, mostly from England, Ireland and Scotland, with no money, but with a desire to have a piece of land that belonged to them. If I were offering any advice to the farmers of this or any other province, it would be to live without the things for which they cannot pay, because nobody can so ill afford to get into debt as a farmer. I know of farms in Ontario that have been occupied by the same family for five generations. Those farms have never been sold; they always have been inherited by one son. There never was a mortgage on them. There are more farms of that kind in Ontario than one would believe unless one had the temerity, as I have had, to talk to these farmers and ask them impudent questions. I should like to see something done to improve the condition of our farming people—not to enable them to operate two automobiles or to have what some people wrongfully call the luxury of the cities. Wading around the barnyard knee-deep in snow in high rubber boots gives a great deal more satisfaction to people who care for the land than the enjoyment of what some people call the "pleasures" of life. In Western Canada there are many people from Central Europe who are very similar to the British immigrants I have mentioned. They are people whose roots are in the soil. All the members of the family will not become farmers; some will go into business or into the professions; but always there will be one—often the most intelligent member of the family—who will stay on the land. Others will go away, as I did. But something should be done for those who remain. I think this development in the market for beef and dairy cattle is important, because this country is inhabited by people similar to those of the British Isles, who for many generations have farmed successfully; people who have inherited the desire to till, and the inclination to own land and to hand it on to their successors unimpaired. They belong to the land.

His dead are in the churchyard—thirty generations laid.

Their names were old in history when Domesday Book was made.

And the passion and the piety and prowess of his line

Have seeded, rooted, fruited in some land the Law calls mine.

Hon. JULES PREVOST (Translation): As I rise to second the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, which has just been presented in so original a manner by our colleague the honourable senator from Peel (Hon.

Hon. Mr. MARSHALL,

Mr. Marshall), I feel quite unworthy of the task ahead of me. I therefore beg of you to bear patiently with me while I make a few remarks.

The speech by which His Excellency the Governor General opened this session is distinguished by an exceptional feature. Indeed this speech will remain as a landmark in our parliamentary records, for it announces an event which will mark an epoch in our history: the forthcoming visit to Canada of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Great Britain. The Canadian people are rejoicing over this prospect, because the expansion of our liberty and autonomy has been accompanied by an ever increasing attachment to the Sovereign, who is for us a living symbol of the British institutions which have sheltered the development of our nation.

The Speech from the Throne mentions numerous and grave questions and is a proof of the importance acquired by Canadian politics, and of the seriousness of problems Canada must face, from the economic as well as from the national and international standpoints, problems which the Government labours to solve in the free exercise of its rights, the full consciousness of its duties and responsibilities.

It is possible that opinions may differ on questions of detail, but I believe I may say positively that we are all united on the principles at stake in the different questions mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. Whether it be a matter, for example, of finding more and wider outlets for our commerce, an object which our trade agreements with Great Britain and the United States would realize, as well as those in course of preparation with the West Indies and other countries, or whether it be the painful problem of unemployment, which the Government is trying to relieve, or the rounding off of our national defences; in all cases, Canadians admit that efforts and provision are imperative if we are to insure general welfare and security.

I do not wish to discuss all the subjects of this sessional program, but should like to emphasize two in particular, and shall do so briefly.

Here is what His Excellency the Governor General has to say about unemployment:

Unemployment in Canada continues to receive the unremitting attention of local, provincial and federal authorities. Having regard to the existing division of powers and obligations under the British North America Act, responsibility for unemployment and the solution of its problems is necessarily divided. There has been an increasing assumption of obligations on the part of the Federal Government.

The Speech from the Throne recalls that the Federal Government stimulated the building industry and employment in private in-