

their progress and developement. Some years ago there were no hopes of direct railway communication with that part of the country under the policy of the Reform Government ; yet within eight years from the time the Conservative Government came into power and pursued their policy with vigor and earnestness, that vast country has been opened up to settlement, and the Territory that ten years ago was the home of wild beasts and roving Indians has developed into a settled country that is now asking for representation in Parliament, and all the rights and privileges that are enjoyed by other parts of the Dominion. It is a realization which no one could have fully anticipated within so short a period. I do not believe that the most sanguine man in this House ever anticipated that the country would be to-day in the position to claim our present relations with such a vast and rich heritage or that our political, social and commercial and trade relations would be such, as they are. We should be proud of our vast domain and the position in which we now stand toward the North-West Territories.

Some objection has been raised by my hon. friend against the construction of the canal at Sault Ste. Marie. I say, independent of all political considerations, from my knowledge of the present canal—for fortunately I was detained there a whole day on my way down last autumn—it is scarcely equal to the necessities of the trade of the United States, and certainly inadequate to the addition of our growing shipping on our great lakes. It has not a sufficient capacity to accommodate the existing demand on it. Looking to the fact that we can build a canal on our own side of the river much cheaper than the one now on the American side, and with greater capacity, I believe that the Government are wise in providing such accommodation. It is contended that because we have a railway running through Canada independent of the United States that we do not require this canal ; but every practical man knows that the railway alone is not going to accommodate the trade of our lakes and the North-West. The water route will always be the popular, the natural mode of transporting the bulk of the goods

of this country. It is the natural highway through the heart of Canada, and we ought not to be dependent upon a foreign nation for the use of their canal. In view of the immense development of our internal trade and navigation it would be a dangerous policy to wait until we are placed in the predicament of being deprived of the use of the canal at the Sault. It is a wise policy on the part of the Government to prepare for every contingency in a matter of such vital importance as the internal trade and shipping of our country. Therefore I believe, apart from political exigencies, that this canal has become an absolute necessity for the rapidly increasing trade and commerce of Canada.

HON. MR. POWER—Hear! hear!

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I am glad that my hon. friend from Halifax approves of anything I say. I believe that I have convinced him on many points ; if not it is his misfortune and not my fault ; it is owing to his persistent opposition to everything that is advanced for the prosperity and development of the country in which we live and of which we are proud, that I was forced to occupy, what might be considered unnecessarily the time of this House in the passage of the address.

HON. MR. BELLEROSE (in French) said he would not repeat the complimentary reference to the appointment of his hon. friend Mr. Plumb to the Chair, the regret expressed at the withdrawal of Sir Alexander Campbell from the leadership of the Senate, or the expressions of approval of the remarks made by the mover and seconder of the Address. All these matters had been so happily commented upon by the leader of the Opposition that he (Mr. Bellerose) would say nothing more than he fully endorsed the remarks of the hon. gentleman from Ottawa. As to the resolutions now under consideration the discussion of them by gentlemen on both sides of the House had been of such a nature that it would be useless for him to occupy the time of the Senate in adding anything to what had already been said. The different subjects referred to in the