

celebrating their centenary. Lord Lisgar was judging too hastily as Voltaire had judged from too far away. They were forgetting Providence, who governs all empires and who had decided that Canada was to be the most important colony of the British empire.

European governments are no more indifferent about Canada. France regrets that she has lost it, as it has been said very often and, as Mr. Louis de Tinsseau repeated it a few days ago, and England gratifies us with every honour, the most recent and the greatest being the sending us of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught as Governor. We have now more than a representative of the Crown, we have, I dare to say, a part of the crowns of the great Queen Victoria, of our regretted sovereign Edward VII., and our beloved King George V. Canada has greeted with joy and many good wishes the arrival of His Royal Highness. We have not in this country the sumptuous palaces of the Imperial court, but we have seven millions of British subjects who say with the same sincerity and the same joy: God save the King! These seven millions have faith in the future and expect from their government principals, acts, work, revenues, wealth and honesty. The heirs of the Conservative party know that 'noblesse oblige.' They will work with our noble governor and with the people who acted so nobly on the 21st of September when the time came to remember the country.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (East Quebec), Mr. Speaker, the House has listened with more than ordinary interest to the two addresses in support of the motion now in your hands. We can congratulate ourselves upon the fact that we welcome to our ranks two members, young in years and of eminent ability, ability which might accomplish a great deal for this country if the hope could be entertained that these young men would direct their ability in the proper direction—a hope, however, which judging not from the manner but from the matter of their speeches, I fear I must not be too sanguine of. The hon. member for Calgary (Mr. Bennett) was preceded to this House by a high reputation for fluent oratory, and the speech with which he has favoured us has not only sustained but enhanced that reputation. I think I can with perfect appositeness compare his speech on the present occasion—judging from its easy and copious flow of sentences—with the crystal waters of the Bow river rushing down from the summit of the Rocky mountains towards that young and enterprising city which he has the honour to represent in this House.

Nor is my hon. friend the member for Dorchester (Mr. Sevigny) new to politi-

cal life. I am unaware that he has ever served in any legislative body as has the member for Calgary, but my hon. friend (Mr. Sevigny) is well known to us in the province of Quebec as amongst the most brilliant and ardent orators of the Nationalist party. Indeed, echoes have reached us of his fiery denunciation of the Naval Service Law, and not only of the Naval Service Law itself but of all naval expenditure in any kind or shape, whether Imperial or Canadian, by the Canadian people. But, Sir, it is a pleasure for me to congratulate my young and hon. friend (Mr. Sevigny) upon his speech of to-day. I particularly congratulate him upon the contrast that speech affords to the speeches with which he carried on his campaign, and I am sure that if his electors of Dorchester had been present to-day they would have inquired of themselves: Is that the candidate we elected on the 21st of September. My hon. friend (Mr. Sevigny), as did the hon. member for Calgary, was kind enough to offer me his congratulations upon the fact that this is my seventieth birthday. I tender to both gentlemen my sincere thanks, and I thank hon. members on both sides, and especially hon. gentlemen on the opposite side of the House, for the kind manner in which they received these compliments. The hon. member for Calgary was profuse in his good wishes towards me, and he concluded by hoping that for a long time I shall occupy the position which I now do, meaning of course that for a long time to come I should remain leader of the Opposition discharging the difficult task of watching and criticising the acts of the government. I must say in all candour to my hon. friends, that judging from the manner in which the present government has commenced its career I feel that task will be too great for my advancing years.

My hon. friend (Mr. Bennett) and my hon. friend (Mr. Sevigny) reached their happiest vein in their references to our new Governor-General, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. Sir, it is a trite saying now that Canada has been exceedingly fortunate from the earliest days of Confederation to the present, in the character of those who have been entrusted with the duty and the honour of representing the royal authority in this dominion. Every new appointment has suggested the same observation, but the last appointment more than all the others. Already it is evident that His Royal Highness will bring to the discharge of his duties the same zeal, the same enthusiasm, the same care, that was ever displayed by his predecessors. In addition, he brings to the dignity of the office the glamour of his high rank in the British Empire. And, as to His Gracious consort, though scarcely a month in this Dominion she has already