

the status which we enjoy as a part of the great British commonwealth, or the British Empire; what I am more concerned with is that each part of this Dominion should have an equal status. Is it right that Ontario and Quebec, because of a heavier representation in this House, should pass legislation and wield the big stick over the provinces which have not that representation? If we are going to be a successful country and confederation, all parts must enjoy the same freedom before contentment will result. I think we have the finest country on God's earth; no other people in the world are so blessed with natural resources as we are in Canada. We have nearly everything we want; living should be cheaper in Canada than in any other country of the world; production should be cheaper as well, but to-day we find the cost of living in Canada the highest, I think, in the world. This should not be. Every province must have equality, and every class must have equal opportunity. I think this is the great task of statesmen in Canada to-day. Confederation presents a challenge to the people of this country; different parts of Canada are talking secession, because we are not equal; we are discriminated against; discrimination exists as between the rights of one citizen and another. This can be remedied by the government, and no other government since confederation has had the opportunity which is before this government to-day. Let them remove some of these inequalities. This is the test of statesmanship to-day, and we wonder whether they will rise to the status of statesmen or continue to wallow in the slough of expediency.

Mr. MICHAEL LUCHKOVICH (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, my fondest wish at the present time is that my voice could be as great as the province from which I come, and that my eloquence might be as lofty as the mountains which skirt the western part of that province. I could then voice the sentiments of the inhabitants of that fair province in a manner befitting its greatness and the important part it is bound to play in the affairs of Canada. Being a new member, however, and never having run the gauntlet of Liberal and Conservative criticism, I feel that I am taking a chance of being heeded or even given a favourable hearing. I feel, however, that I am speaking as a citizen of a great country, to whom has been given the honour of representing one of its constituencies, and as such I hope this, my maiden speech, will be the beginning of a truer Canadian citizenship, a citizenship which I hope to impart to the people in my constituency, especially to those whose origin was

in a foreign country. As it happens, I do not belong to a group commanding a very large membership, but that will in no way prevent me from doing my duty as a good citizen; on the contrary, I believe that only in this group can I do my duty conscientiously and faithfully.

During the past three days I have noticed that there are different stages to the debates in this House. There is the jollicose stage; then we have the bellicose stage, and finally the comatose stage. I saw evidences of the comatose stage this afternoon, when in looking at the other side of the House I saw and heard two or three hon. members vociferously snoring. We are now dangerously near bedtime, and I do not wish to speak at any great length; in other words, I do not wish to put any hon. member into the comatose stage.

In the speech from the throne there was brief mention of a substantial increase in immigration. The views of individual men are different on this subject. As a matter of fact, one hon. member has said that it is useless to spend a million dollars bringing settlers to the farms when that money could be spent more advantageously otherwise, but no matter in what light we view this subject, immigration is always before us, and it has been a policy of every government in Canada since confederation. I understand further that immigration from northern and central Europe has been urged, or at least looked upon with favour in certain quarters. In my constituency there are many immigrants of Scandinavian and Slavic descent, and I can vouch for the success attained by those men. They have, under the most trying circumstances, made good, and are now from every point of view first class citizens. I do not mean to say that I advocate bringing in immigrants only from Scandinavian countries and from countries of eastern Europe. There certainly must be a leaven of British in this country so that we can retain our institutions and our ideals as we have always had them in Canada. Individuals, however, differ very much as to the merits of an immigration and colonization scheme. Some would like to follow the United States in her "partly-closed policy", and stem the tide of agricultural people from eastern and central Europe. Apprehension is being felt for the safety of this country if this influx is not stemmed. It is based on a fear that the foreign stock resident in Canada would soon be out of a safe proportion to the native stock; that the Canadian farmer would be menaced with an agricultural over-production. These conditions really do not exist in Canada and in view of our present state of under-development,