

set at the manufacturing source, and should not be a nuisance tax costing thousands of dollars annually to collect.

The hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Howe) neglected to answer satisfactorily my question whether the ex-service men he will appoint as vendors of radio licences will receive their appointments upon the recommendation of officials of veterans' organizations; nor did he say anything as to recommendations from the veterans' assistance commissions, composed of volunteer bodies of outstanding citizens in the different centres across Canada. I will tell the house, however, who will make these recommendations. They will be made by Liberal members of parliament, by defeated Liberal candidates, and by the presidents of Liberal associations in the different ridings, and I doubt very much if there will be many ex-service men appointed.

Let us turn for a moment to the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Rogers). Last January, and again last July, he stated emphatically that in the matter of relief costs the responsibility was principally on the province and the municipality. But now there has been a change of heart, a change with which I believe the municipalities are thoroughly satisfied, their share now being 20 per cent of the cost. But what the mayors of the cities and towns of Ontario particularly want to know, and what I myself want to know, is this: Is this government sincere in this change of policy? Is it to be the permanent policy of this government? Or is it simply a red herring being drawn across the trail in an attempt to catch votes at the forthcoming federal election?

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, regardless of what conditions are, it is about time that Canada stated officially that she was with Great Britain in this her hour of trial, and in saying that I am speaking not for myself alone but for the great majority of the people whom I immediately represent in this house.

Mr. D. E. BLACK (Chateauguay-Huntingdon) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, as I have the honour to represent a great number of French-Canadian voters, I take pleasure on this occasion in addressing my first words to this house in the French language, so as to show my esteem for them, for their language, their integrity, and their contribution to the progress and development of this country.

Our fellow citizens of French origin have done much to make Canada what it is to-day, by their loyalty, their industriousness and their honesty. We feel grateful to them for that. By our daily contacts, they have learned that they can always depend on my

cooperation, and my sense of justice. I shall always be ready to help them and to be a real advocate of good understanding between the two races.

I would like, sir, to be able to continue my remarks in French; but as it is not my language,—although I considered it my duty to learn it a little,—I shall have to continue in English.

(Text) Every one in my constituency of Chateauguay-Huntingdon, Mr. Speaker, deeply appreciates and takes great pride in the forthcoming visit to Canada of Their Majesties the King and Queen, and we shall be with them in spirit throughout their stay in Canada.

I should also like to take this occasion to express our thankfulness for the return to health and to his duties in this house of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning). We trust that his health will continue to permit him to carry on his duties as Minister of Finance as ably as he has done in the past.

The new ministers who have been appointed to the cabinet are also to be congratulated, and we know that in the discharge of their duties they will meet with the expectations of the government.

May I also congratulate the hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Manion) upon his election to the leadership of his party.

I feel that I am expressing the opinion of the citizens of my county and of the country at large when I state that we appreciated very much the calm attitude of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) in regard to the European crisis in the troubled days of September last. We know that he stands for peace, and if eventually this country is drawn into war, we shall know that it was the only alternative left and one that we were bound to take.

The counties of Chateauguay-Huntingdon, which I have the honour to represent, border on the state of New York, and in these two counties there are eleven customs ports with an efficient staff of customs and immigration officers, who are doing their utmost to carry out the customs and immigration regulations faithfully and well. Among the largest of these ports are Lacolle, Cantic, Trout River and Henrysburg. These ports daily take in by way of revenue some \$3,000.

The county of Chateauguay, Mr. Speaker, is 73 per cent rural and has a total of 1,649 farms, with an average value of \$9,000 per farm.

The county of Huntingdon, which I also represent, is also rural to the extent of 83 per cent of its population. The 1,784 farms there have an average value of \$7,182. I would have you note, sir, that in both of these counties the values are above the