

bers opposite in the election of 1930 was changed to a Liberal majority of 6,460. In the constituency of Mackenzie, where the former Conservative-C.C.F. candidate, Mr. Campbell, received a majority of 3,076, the results disclosed a Liberal majority of 1,614.

A still more interesting circumstance is that in two of these constituencies, the one in the maritimes and the other in the west, there were third party candidates as well as candidates representing the Conservative party. In both cases the third party and government candidates were defeated. Another significant feature is that in each of these constituencies the Conservative candidate lost his deposit. If anything could be more significant of the view taken by the electors concerning the policies of hon. members opposite I wish the Prime Minister would tell us when he rises to speak.

I should like to extend congratulations to the three new members who have come to the house. Each one has already had considerable experience in public life. The hon. member for Yamaska (Mr. Boucher) had sat in this house more than ten years, up to the time of the last general election. The hon. member for Restigouche-Madawaska (Mr. Michaud) had been in the legislature of the province of New Brunswick for seventeen years, and had occupied a position in the government of that province as minister without portfolio. The hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. MacMillan), was formerly a member of the legislature of the province of Saskatchewan. Not only is the house and country to be congratulated on the result of the by-elections, but as well upon what in the way of additional parliamentary experience and power in debate has been secured to this house.

These three by-elections, however, are not the only evidence of the extent to which hon. gentlemen opposite and the government in particular, have been losing the confidence of the public. It will be recalled that in the by-election held in the autumn of 1932, the one immediately preceding the three to which I have referred, the result was a verdict for the Liberal candidate, which also disclosed a very considerable increase over the majority which had been obtained by the present member's predecessor. The constituency of South Huron which in a previous election had given the late Mr. McMillan a majority of 349 gave in 1932 a majority of 1,989 to the Liberal candidate. Those are records of recent by-elections. They show what Canada thinks of the policies of economic nationalism and economic imperialism which have been the main objectives of the present administration since it came into office.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

However, if still further evidence is required to show not only the manner in which the public has lost confidence in this administration but the manner in which the government has lost confidence in itself, it will be found in the fact that at the present time, and since May last, there has been a vacancy in the representation in the constituency of South Oxford. I ask the administration this question: When the writs were issued for the constituencies of Yamaska, Restigouche-Madawaska and Mackenzie, why was not a writ issued for the constituency of South Oxford? Certainly South Oxford should be represented in this house at this time. Why are its electors to all intents and purposes, disfranchised; without representation, so far as this session of parliament is concerned or at least that part of it upon which we have now begun our deliberations? Why is it that not until after the Easter recess will we have any representation in this house from South Oxford?

I noticed that in paying an eloquent and deserved tribute to the late member for South Oxford, the Prime Minister stated that in that part of Canada was to be found the finest type of Canadian citizenship. He repeated the statement that the finest type of Canadian citizenship was to be found in the constituency of South Oxford. Having that fact in mind, I now ask the Prime Minister why that finest type of citizenship is not now represented in parliament. The Prime Minister has power to say that representation should be given, but up to this time the constituency of South Oxford has been denied that representation. So the evidence from every side goes to prove that not only has the government lost the confidence of the country but it has lost confidence in itself. May I state further that no matter what majority it may have as a result of the number of hon. members returned at the time the government came into office, that majority no longer represents the opinion of the Canadian people. By-elections have expressed in no uncertain voice the opinion of our people. This government has lost the moral authority to govern.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I repeat the statement. I say that having lost by-election after by-election in all parts of Canada during the last two or three years, and the people having spoken so positively and so emphatically, it has been made perfectly plain that the government has lost the moral authority to govern, and if it followed its