

his country in the future as he has so ably and well done in the past.

Hon. Mr. ROY—Following the time honoured custom of this honourable House, it will be my pleasure and privilege to second the address to the speech from the Throne in the French language. Previous to speaking in French I wish, however, to say a few words in English.

Coming as I do from the great west of Canada it was gratifying to me to hear His Excellency, in one of the first paragraphs of the speech from the Throne, refer to the great satisfaction he had experienced during his last visit to the western provinces. Let me assure you, hon. gentlemen that no representative of the Crown has ever left a better impression amongst the western population than His Excellency Earl Grey. The interest he has shown in the welfare of our part of the country has developed a strong feeling of admiration and of gratitude amongst our people towards the representative of His Majesty the King in our Dominion.

Before closing my remarks in English, I wish, hon. gentlemen, to express to you how deeply grieved I feel at the loss of two of the most respected members of this honourable House, Hon. Senator Vidal and Hon. Senator Kerr, of Cobourg, have passed away after giving the benefit of their experience and the best of their lives to the service of their country. And those who have entered later upon the same labours, who have benefited by their experience and appreciated their kindness, will feel impelled to uphold, as they have done, the best traditions of parliamentary life in Canada.

Hon. Mr. ROY (in French)—I appreciate personally, and I appreciate for my province, the honour which the government has done me, in requesting me to second the motion for the adoption of the address in reply to the speech from the Throne. I know that my short parliamentary experience will not permit me do justice to the task which I undertake to fulfil, but I count upon your indulgence for a political debutante.

Coming from one of the western provinces, I experienced a sense of pride and gratitude in hearing His Excellency, in one

of the first paragraphs in the speech from the Throne, declaring to the people of Canada the great satisfaction which he had experienced in visiting our beautiful provinces in the west. In our part of the country we have a lively satisfaction every time we learn that a senator or a member of the House of Commons from the old provinces wishes to visit the west; for, to properly realize and properly explain the marvellous prosperity which Canada enjoys throughout, it is necessary to cross the fertile prairies of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Not one of our legislators has returned from these new provinces without having learned how just and wise the government have been during the ten last years of their administration in inaugurating an aggressive policy of immigration, in giving generously to those provinces the best means of transportation and in putting an end to a disastrous monopoly, which up to that time had weighed upon the west. Hon. gentlemen, every dollar that you spend in the west will be returned a hundred fold to the Canadian revenue. To those who consider that the policy of the government is too large, I oppose this maxim of a great French writer. Littré said: 'It is necessary to undertake as if we were disposing for eternity. It is necessary to work each day as if we would die before to-morrow, and we dreaded leaving our work incomplete.'

Hon. gentlemen, we have yet millions of acres of land to cultivate. British Columbia and Alberta will, one of these days, be found to possess the greatest coal mines in the world. We will before long cover the United States market with the products of our lakes and rivers. The deposits of minerals and of petroleum only await development to give wealth to our country. I repeat, hon. gentlemen of the older provinces, that any sacrifices you wish to make in aiding the development of the west will be really favours done for yourselves. I am happy to state that the government thoroughly understands the truth of that principle. The speech from the Throne which we have before us, furnishes proof of that fact. Every one of its paragraphs deals with questions which tend, more or less, to continue the development