

The Address—Mr. Len Marchand

Here in Canada we may seek our goals and, so long as they are not in conflict with the public good, we are free to press onward. When the Prime Minister came to my riding of Kamloops-Cariboo he spoke to the people as though he had known them all his life, and they responded as though they had known him all their lives. Indeed in a certain sense they had, for he is to us all the exemplification of all the best that is present in the Canadian people and of all that is good in Canadian education. He is a man of many talents, a man for all seasons, a man of his times, and above all a man for his country and his countrymen. I am proud that my party, the Liberal party, has found this man who so specially meets the needs of our country, a man who has the special qualifications to meet the problems of today.

There is another historic point this session. We have, for the first time, a Speaker elected on a non-party basis. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate you, sir, for you have richly earned the confidence of the house.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): I have watched Mr. Speaker from another part of the house many times. I was going to say from up above, but perhaps it might have providential implications. He has always shown unfailing courtesy, tact and wisdom; he has brought the house through many a tricky and sometimes difficult situation. This promises to be a great parliament, a parliament with many challenges, many problems, much work and much to do, but with a great deal of capability to meet the challenges of the times ahead.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I represent the riding of Kamloops-Cariboo. I am conscious that this part of British Columbia has returned great men to parliament. I am conscious that I am taking the place of a great parliamentarian, a man of whom my constituents have been justly proud.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): I hope I can fulfil the expectations of those who supported me, for there were many of them. As I stand here today to speak on behalf of all persuasions in my constituency I am mindful of the obligation and responsibility I have accepted. My constituency is large; it is a rich and varied part of a great and prosperous country; it has within it mines, forests, people engaged in the raising of cattle, sports

[Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo).]

fishing, hunting and recreational areas unsurpassed in all of Canada.

The natural wealth of this area is being developed by people who have the virtues which made it possible for Canada to be the country it is. Within the borders of my riding lies the first settlement in the interior of British Columbia, the site of the gold rush of the 1850's which began the real development of that great province. The spirit of those who came first, of those who opened that country, lives on in the hearts of the people today; not the greed which sometimes drove man to the goldfields but the courage, perseverance and the will to endure that enabled man to press on through the unexplored wilderness and make his home. My ancestors were there to greet them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Working together the people have created a vigorous community, a community of people who are not afraid of the future, people who believe in Canada and who love it deeply.

There are in British Columbia abundant natural resources. These are richly rewarding, not just to those who work directly to develop them but to all Canada. Although they are rich and although they are abundant, these resources require wise management. They must not be torn from their natural setting with no thought for another day.

• (1:00 p.m.)

If we are to continue with our prosperous life, our resources must be developed and used for the maximum benefit today, as well as the maximum long term benefit. This means planning. This means direction and leadership so that the planning will be in the best interests of all. We have abundant water in Kamloops-Cariboo, but others are not so fortunate. To divert and use this water without adequate planning would serve no one. The only way to benefit all who depend upon this resource is to plan the use in the best interest of the area affected. It is self-evident from our over-all abundance that the needs of Canadians can be fulfilled. It is equally self-evident that in fulfilling these needs we must consider future needs, which may not always be clear without full study.

I am confident the government will show the way by continuing the work of the water resources branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. I am confident that