

women having the vote. Who among the women had the vote? It was the wives, the daughters, and the mothers who had said to their husbands, their fathers, and their sons: "Go and fight that the world may be free and safe for democracy." Those were the women who had the vote—intelligent women, loyal women—and what harm could possibly come from that?

Those are the charges which my honourable friend makes, and he says that those acts constitute a crime that can never be forgiven until they are wiped out by the defeat of this Government. I think my honourable friend will have difficulty in proving his point in that regard. My honourable friend has gone into ancient history; he has recounted the history of this country since, I think, 1866.

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: 1854.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: 1854, was it? I know he began a long way back; and what has he proved? He has proved, according to his own view, that we should have accepted the pact of reciprocity with the United States which his friends negotiated in 1911. What is the use of fighting out these old issues? They were fought and decided at the polls ten years ago. Since that time much water has passed over the dam; since that time the greatest epoch in the history of the world has passed, and to-day we are face to face with other conditions. Why waste the time of this House? Why waste the time of honourable gentlemen here discussing these old issues?

It is not my purpose to follow the honourable gentleman through the tortuous course that he has pursued in that regard. I say the issues before us are sufficient without discussing those matters of the dry and musty past. Let us get together in this country. Let us forget that we are Englishmen or Irishmen, Scotchmen or Frenchmen, and let us remember that we are and should be, first of all, Canadians. That is the first thing. Then let us remember that we are partners in the greatest political organization that the world has ever seen. We ought to be proud to think that we are partners; not subordinate, but full partners—in the great British Empire which makes for everything that is good in civilization and sets its face sternly against everything that is bad. Let us forget these racial questions. I do not care whether a man is French or English, Irish or Scotch; if he is a man who does his duty by the country and tries to make himself a good citizen in order that

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this great country with its great extent of territory and great natural resources should be what it ought to be, this will be one of the greatest countries in the world. Some people are built upon such narrow lines that they cannot see beyond their own dooryards. Let us remember that we have one of the finest countries in the world, a country of great natural resources and great potential wealth, and that all we need is an increase of population. Let us be careful to handpick that population in order that we may have not only the greatest country in the world, but a splendid, sturdy citizenship that will make this country prosper as no country under the face of heaven shall prosper in the future.

Hon. J. P. B. CASGRAIN: Honourable gentlemen, my first duty is a very pleasant one. I want to thank and compliment the mover and the seconder of the Address, particularly the mover, coming as he does from Quebec, where he was born and brought up amongst our own people. I can tell the members of this House who do not understand French that he spoke very good French, and said very nice things in French. He went to a French school, Montmagny College, and he was then a schoolmate of the honourable gentleman from the Gulf (Hon. Mr. L'Espérance). I may also say that the mover of the Address is a man who has very large interests in this country. He is a man of great substance, and when he speaks about business matters he knows very well the full importance of what he says. As to the seconder of the Address, the honourable gentleman from Pembroke (Hon. Mr. White), he is an old parliamentarian who graduated from the other House, and it was easy for him to make a good speech, and he did it.

While complimenting the mover and the seconder of the Address, I cannot praise the Speech from the Throne. I do not think there is very much in it. It is remarkable for what is not in it. The most momentous question that we should like to hear about was not mentioned. The Speech from the Throne harks back to protection, and as the leader of the House told us in his speech, protection is forty years old. The honourable gentleman from Mille Îles (Hon. Mr. David) says: "That is nothing: I was fighting for protection in 1871, forty-nine years ago." At that time there was an exodus of our people from Montreal and the province of Quebec to the United States to work in the factories there. They