
QUEBEC AND CONFEDERATION

(Speech delivered by Sir Lomer Gouin, K.C.M.G., Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, on the Francoeur motion, in the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, January 23rd, 1918.)

Mr Speaker,

I have followed with the closest attention the extremely interesting debate on the motion that has been submitted for our consideration. It was with the greatest pleasure, indeed, that I listened to those of my colleagues, who have spoken on the question and whose eloquence has charmed us. In extending to them not only my own congratulations but the congratulations of all the honorable members I am expressing, I am sure, the unanimous feeling of this House.

As you are aware, Mr Speaker, this debate has created some concern in the other Provinces of the Dominion. The fears that have been entertained should now be dissipated, in fact, it can be truly affirmed that never has a debate been conducted with greater calmness and with more dignity.

It is now my desire to make a few remarks and in doing so I would ask the indulgence of the