

that there is more good in the hearts and brains of all of you than would seem to appear at times. You should try to look for what is best instead of always rehashing old quarrels, old wrangles and old charges. Instead of accusing each other of all the crimes and errors of the past, you should try to find out some means to adjust the present and prepare a better future for the generations to come. If you did that I think you would have accomplished your duty as representatives of the people of Canada to a greater extent than by settling, resettling and never settling old scores.

I present these views with the fullest amity and from the simpleness of my heart. My days have passed, but in my younger days I appealed frequently to those who were also young and full of enthusiasm. My youth is gone, my health is failing; but there is something here which remains youthful because it is eternal, that is, the belief in duty to God, in duty to country and in duty to humanity. By humanity I mean all the people of this country, whether they be Grits or Tories, Catholics or Protestants, Jews, Mohammedans or unbelievers; I mean all the men and women who are gathered in this land under the emblem of the British crown. They are under the immediate care, tutelage and responsibility of this parliament. If we fail in our duty in these present circumstances, the memory of us as a body and perhaps as individuals will be cursed by generations to come. We shall be cursed, not for any crime that has been committed by either party, but perhaps for what might be termed the greatest crime of all, that is, the failure to accomplish one's duty at a time when it should be accomplished. That time is upon us. Our duty is not to squander money, it is not to pile up debts or to maintain a certain number of people without work, including those who do not want to work; as the hon. member for Acadia (Mr. Gardiner) says, it is to try to get to the root and remedy the deep-seated causes of the evil.

I turn now to my friends to my left. They are full of hope. They are a new group with a new program. Let us be frank and admit that there is much in them which is good. I commend this one thing to my young Conservative friends from Quebec: Cease the campaign of slander which has been carried on by calling these men the agents of Moscow. Do you know what you are going to get from such a practice? When the people begin to read, and there are people in Quebec who do read; when they find out that there is so much good in that platform, they will draw the conclusion—they have the logical French

[Mr. Bourassa.]

mind—that if that is Moscow, then Moscow is not so bad. When you slander an opponent by tacking upon his program or his name or his person something of ill repute coming from a man or party that cannot be reached, the people make a simple application and conclude that the men you denounce or the men with whom you compare them are not so bad as you claim. I give you that advice.

To my Liberal friends in the province of Quebec I give this further advice: Do not raise your hands in horror and say, "Oh no, we have nothing in common with these men from the west, these semi-bolsheviks and quarter-communists." Of course, I would not answer for all of them, I can tell you quite frankly. I no longer answer for any public man or party; I have enough to do answering for myself. But suppose there are among them men of advanced views. Are you prepared to say that there is no one in your party who does not hold some wrong views on some things? When you make use of the pope's encyclical to denounce the C.C.F., why do you not read that part of it which denounces the system that has been built up, maintained and protected by the two great historic parties since confederation? If you do, you will find in the pope's encyclical as much against our social and economic system as there is against communism and socialism. Let us admit that there is much good in the program of the C.C.F., and let my hon. friends of the C.C.F. realize that they cannot expect to have their whole program swallowed by all the people of Canada. There must be give and take between men and parties: only by so doing can we hope to settle our difficulties. Surely we could agree upon some measures to control finance. As regards the central bank, can we not come to some agreement, I will not say to repudiate debts, but to deal with them in such a way that they will be attenuated, so to speak, debts both public and semi-public. Whatever more in the way of trade we do with New Zealand and England will not counteract the tremendous fact that less than eleven million people in Canada bear to-day a public and semi-public debt, including in this the debt of corporations, religious and civil, of over ten billion dollars. Do you realize what that means for a country like Canada which, as the Prime Minister said this afternoon, has no accumulated wealth? It is all very well to talk about natural resources. I remember the observation of a sensible old Londoner who gave a bit of advice to a new statesman coming from Canada to address the people in England. He asked this old Englishman what he would advise him to say in order to be agree-