

was born. For these reasons I have accepted with pleasure and gratitude, and I thank the Government for having honoured my people in conferring this privilege upon my humble self.

The pleasure that I experience is enhanced by the satisfaction of observing that my old native province has returned to its past traditions, and that it will have a considerable part in the deliberations of a Government in which all national elements and all provinces are normally represented, according to the spirit of Canadian Confederation.

On this occasion, when we are assembled to deal with one of the tensest of financial and economic situations, it is encouraging to observe the assurance given by each province of the Dominion that it will co-operate with the central Government in a common endeavour, and the attitude of the people as a whole leaves no doubt as to what is expected of the legislators in the way of prompt and united action. The time seems opportune, then, for all men of good-will to join together in seeking a solution of the distressing and most urgent problems that confront us.

Whatever depression may exist in other parts of the world, Canada as a young country overflowing with resources that are still almost intact, free from the crushing burdens with which older countries are laden, should, it seems, escape from the general situation and advance untrammelled in her natural development.

The fiscal laws occupy a place in the foreground among the remedies sought, and to-day, as at all times of great economic crisis, the Canadian people as a whole have rendered an irrefutable verdict in favour of the traditional Canadian policy of protection. Manitoba, the province to which I am proud to belong, has particularly acclaimed this policy and once more taken a place in the front rank in giving expression to its patriotism.

If the axiom that has been laid down, and repeated throughout the length and breadth of the country, "Canada first," has been received everywhere with enthusiasm, it must be added that the Canadian people have also declared their deep conviction that the best method of maintaining and strengthening the ties that bind us to the British Empire is for each Dominion to insure first its own prosperity. Nor has public discussion left any doubt as to the desire of the Canadian people that the British Preference should be

revised in a way that shall be not only more Canadian, but at the same time fairer to all concerned.

My remarks on the Speech from the Throne will be brief, like the Speech itself. It carries a lesson taught by the present situation as well as by recent events, namely, that this is a time, not for words, but for action.

Our common and most pressing obligation, therefore, I venture to say, is to face frankly and in broad daylight the conditions at present prevailing in our country. We must find the quickest and most effective remedy for the unemployment that has resulted from stagnation in agriculture and in our industries generally.

The Customs Act amendments announced and the various modifications in the tariff will be such, let us hope, as will encourage the development of our natural resources by Canadians and for Canadians. That they may restore confidence in business, may stimulate our foreign trade, and on our own markets prevent unfair competition from foreign countries—this, I venture to assert, is what is expected of us by the people of this country.

As you know, I am a Western farmer. The problems of the Canadian farmer are the same everywhere, and the protection needed by him, as well as by persons engaged in other industries, should cover the entire country. The failure to sell the wheat crop at satisfactory prices has been one of the causes of unemployment. This year's crop is not encouraging. It will probably yield less than the cost of production. As a farmer I therefore make a special appeal for the good-will of all honourable senators to aid and expedite the combined effort to find an outlet for our wheat—a serious problem, which has confronted us for a long time, and the non-solution of which has caused so much misery in the West and throughout Canada.

Assured beforehand of the patriotic spirit that animates all who are members of this honourable Senate, may I once more urge them to take that prompt action which the present situation demands.

I desire to express, honourable senators, my sincere thanks for your kind attention, and beg to move:

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament; namely:—

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Viscount Willingdon, Knight Grand Commander of