

although there were no newly-appointed French senators, there was always a French member of the Senate to move or second the Address. I give him my own case as an example. In 1905, although I had been the mover of the Address in 1903, I was asked to second the Address.

In order to preserve the old custom, which is a respected one, and which must be considered as constituting a right, I will say a few words in French, and take the place of the honourable gentleman on the other side who should have spoken in French. Although I do not like to repeat what I said yesterday, I am inclined to think that the only reason why there was not a French speaker was that there was nobody on the other side able to speak French, or, if there was, that he refused to move or second the Address. I see one honourable gentleman who might perhaps be able to explain that.

I am happy to have heard the honourable leader of the House, in his eloquent speech on the Address, say that in all parts of Canada, in all the provinces of the Dominion, the Prince of Wales had been received with the same enthusiasm. That applies evidently to the province of Quebec as well as to the other provinces. Yes, that must certainly apply to that poor old province of Quebec, whose loyalty has been so often suspected. The province of Quebec has proven in this case, as in many other cases, that she is always as ready to show her respect for British institutions, for the Crown and for the Royal Family, as any other part of Canada, with the exception perhaps of the city of Toronto. Of course, no part of Canada can be compared with the city of Toronto for the expression of strong feelings, whether good or bad. There are many who think that if the Prince of Wales' life is to be spared, it would not be prudent to send him again to the city of Toronto.

I will now continue my speech in French. (Translation.) The province of Quebec has never failed in its duty in this respect. Of this I could give numerous examples. In 1860, when the beloved King Edward VII visited Canada as the Prince of Wales, the province of Quebec, with all other parts of Canada, welcomed him with the greatest cordiality. The Prince of Wales in 1860 was a handsome prince—such a prince as is described in romances and fairy tales—amiable, affable, and charming. The Prince who is visiting us at present resembles his grandfather in several respects. Like him, he is amiable, democratic, a veritable Prince Charming, winning the affection of everybody—the old and the young, the big

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and the little, the rich and the poor, the women and the young girls—much admired by the young girls, in whose eyes he resembles the ideal prince of whom they have often dreamed.

I am pleased to recognize that the Prince of Wales speaks French, and speaks it well, like all those in England who have received a good education.

The English Government, composed always of eminent men, of great diplomats, has always taken care to be represented in British colonies, especially in Canada, by men of sympathy, who would treat the different races and religions and all classes of society with equal impartiality and consideration. That Government has taken care, at a time when the eagle of imperialism most powerfully flaps its wings, to select one who can most favourably represent its views. At all events, whatever enthusiasm there may be for this young Prince and for the Royal Family, this will not prevent us fulfilling our duty in the consideration of this Treaty, and I am convinced that there will be in this Senate members sufficiently independent to consider its problems from the point of view of Canada, its destiny, and its best interests.

This Treaty, honourable gentlemen, is one big with consequences. It raises very serious and grave problems which merit the best attention of our public men and of all who are interested in the future and the destiny of Canada. In the first place, what will be the effect of the ratification of this Treaty? What would be the effect of a refusal to sanction it? Some contend that the effect would be nil, because the Treaty has been signed by the English authorities, by the representatives of the different nations, and by the representatives of Canada, and as a consequence we are bound.

The honourable the Prime Minister has said that if the Treaty were not ratified the Government would be obliged to resign. This is not the first time he has made such a threat when he has wished to have his policy adopted by Parliament. But in any case this would not be a great misfortune—a misfortune so great as that which would result from the ratification of a Treaty fatal to our interests.

Now, what effect is this Treaty likely to have on the destinies of Canada? Through the smoke of the incense in which the honourable leader of this Chamber has enveloped the Treaty we can discern some danger. The sound of the bells which celebrate it might well be the tocsin or the knell of the autonomy of Canada. To what