

existing in Cape Breton to-day? In 1878 the great coal industry of this Dominion was in a dying state, and the policy of the Conservative party in 1879 revived that industry. I well remember the last year of the government that preceded the government of 1879, that the local legislature of the province of Nova Scotia was obliged to send 500 barrels of corn meal on New Year's Day, 1878, to prevent the miners from starving. After the adoption of the national policy, they were able to get work to keep them in bread and butter, and from that day to this the prosperity of the coal mines has been increasing steadily. It has attained its majority now, and I believe that industry is independent. That policy of protection of coal was maintained by the great Conservative party against all the powerful opposition that they could receive from the Liberal party, of which my hon. friend the Minister of Justice was a member. The next step towards the present prosperity in Cape Breton was the building of the Cape Breton railway. That railway in Cape Breton helped to add to the prosperity which the national policy gave to the coal industry. It enabled people from abroad, possessed of wealth and capital, to see the resources of Cape Breton, and that also was obtained against all the powerful opposition the Liberal party could throw against it in the House of Commons. I had the honour to occupy a seat in that House at the time, and one of the leading opponents of that policy was the present Prime Minister of Ontario, who ridiculed the idea of building a railway in Cape Breton parallel with the Intercolonial Railway to take the freight from it. The building of that railway was one of the elements that contributed to the present prosperity in Sydney. The next was the policy of the Conservative party in granting a bounty on iron and steel. That policy was for a certain number of years, and when that number of years was about to expire, the Liberal-Conservative party renewed it for a term of years, expiring in 1902. When the Liberal party came into power in 1896 application was made to them by the great iron ore industries of Canada for a continuation of the law which enabled them to grant a bounty to iron and steel, but I understand it was re-

Hon. Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton).

fused in 1897 and in 1898, and in refusing the continuation of that bounty then, it delayed for a year the prosperity which now exists in Cape Breton. It was only the following year, the year preceding the expected election, that the former policy was continued in the statutes, but in a mutilated form. The Liberal party continued the bounty on a graduated scale until 1907, when it will altogether disappear. Now, these are the three great policies originated by the Conservative party, which resulted in the prosperity which exists to-day in the Island of Cape Breton in all its industries. It would only be common honesty for the leader of the Liberal party in this House to admit that. Common sense is common honesty—I cannot see any difference. My hon. friend yesterday admitted that they had abandoned the principles which they professed in opposition, and that only common sense induced them to adopt the Liberal Conservative policy now. It was a slip of the tongue. He had not time to consider, I suppose, what words he should use. I do not see any difference between common honesty and common sense. I rose to enter my protest against the claim of the present party that they are entitled to all the credit for that prosperity. I am prepared to share the credit with them for what they deserve, that is, for continuing for five years longer the policy of their predecessors, though on a graduated scale terminating in five years.

Hon. Mr. DEVER—I rise to say that I am much pleased to see around me the many familiar faces of those I have known for so many years gone by. It is true there are two faces missing—that of the Hon. Mr. MacInnes, of Hamilton, and that of the Hon. Sir Frank Smith, of Toronto, two gentlemen whose names, I feel, when mentioned in this Senate will evoke most kindly feelings in every member of this Chamber. I admit they had long and happy lives, and that what happened to them will happen to all mankind, that is to die, at a ripe old age, as did our great and gracious Queen, surrounded as she was with all her magnificence. And here I feel disposed to welcome to this Senate the successors of these gentlemen I have mentioned, as being well worthy to take their places and help on the legislation of this Dominion