

elections of 1911, but was re-elected in 1917. It is true that he did not take a large part in the way of official position, but he nevertheless was actively identified with the political events of his province and of this country. He was essentially a tribune of the people and he spent his life in advocating their cause and espousing the principles of Liberalism for which he stood. Few men in Canadian public life have possessed in larger measure than Mr. Gladu the talent of popular oratory, the power to sway masses of men by the spoken word, and his gift in that direction has left for him an abiding place in the memory and affections of the people. To those of us on this side of the House who knew him intimately, he will ever be remembered as the most ardent of Liberals, the most loyal of supporters, and the most genial and devoted of friends.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH
ADDRESS IN REPLY MOVED BY MR. JAMES
MCISAAC AND SECONDED BY MR. J. A.
MACKELVIE

The House proceeded to the consideration of the speech of His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the Session.

Mr. JAMES McISAAC (Kings P.E.I.) moved:

That an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, offering 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.

He said: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of King's, I sincerely thank the Prime Minister for selecting their representative to move the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Highly as I appreciate the honour thus conferred, I am fully conscious of the importance and responsibility of the task, and I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that I approach it with considerable diffidence and some trepidation of heart. I realize that the mover of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the parliamentary session, from one year to another, occupies a unique position; he enjoys much freedom in blazing his own trail and developing, in his own way, the theme of his discourse, and under your wise guidance is, to a very great degree, immune from the danger of transgressing the ordinary rules of Parliamentary debate. He is at liberty indeed to "pursue things unattempted yet in prose or rhyme." But this very freedom, this immunity, may consti-

tute his difficulty and his danger. He may, perhaps, incline to too great reticence on the one hand or too great extravagance on the other. It is, therefore, the part of wisdom to adopt a middle course, for, as it is very concisely expressed in the Latin tongue, "*medio tutissimus ibis*."

Mr. Speaker, before referring to any of the important matters contained in the Speech from the Throne, I desire to tender my cordial congratulations to the right honourable leader of the House on his elevation to the important, exalted and honourable position of leader of the Government, and Prime Minister of the nation. The office of Prime Minister of Canada at any time requires talents and statesmanship of the very highest order; but at the present time, when so many onerous, difficult and intricate public questions present themselves, the need for intellectuality, wisdom and prudence is accentuated. These qualities, I believe, our Prime Minister amply possesses. In this connection I cannot refrain from giving expression to a thought that presses upon my mind, I wish to pay my profound tribute of respect and admiration for the right hon. gentleman (Sir Robert Borden) who led the Government of Canada safely and well through the dark and never-to-be-forgotten days of the world's tragedy, and who for our sakes, by his devotion to duty and self sacrifice for the exaltation of his country, has become a casualty of the war.

In the speech from the Throne it is stated:

On your return to your Parliamentary duties, I am glad to be able to congratulate you on the relative prosperity of the country and its comparative freedom from the feeling of unrest which has agitated countries not so fortunately situated. Following the conditions of expansion due to the war, a period of contraction was inevitable. Restriction of credit involving a certain limitation of production and business has been universal, but this Dominion has been less affected than other countries, and a feeling of confidence prevails. A general reduction of the cost of living has set in, and the country, save in certain limited areas, has been blessed with a bountiful harvest.

But, Mr. Speaker, what Canada has accomplished in the period following the war up to the present is in a sense not less remarkable than her marvelous achievements during that titanic struggle. By reason of the Government's wise and provident financial management during the war period, as well as by reason of increased production and rising war prices, the finances of the country were greatly augmented, and as a consequence Canada