

to the Dominion, and he appealed to those present to use their influence with the masses of foreign speaking people, now pouring into the country, by advocating the growth of Canadian nationality, and so making them true, loyal Canadians.

Mr. W. K. George considered the vital point to be emphasized was the dire effect the agreement would have upon the national life of Canada. Accepting for the sake of argument that all the promises would be fulfilled which the negotiations made, the disintegrating effect it would have was sufficient to cause its rejection.

They had been building up a young, strong, clean nation—the men of the north, unconquered and unconquerable—with the further prospect of becoming the dominant partner, the controlling factor in the greatest empire the world had seen. Were they to abandon that?

From a commercial standpoint, the agreement was open to the most serious objections, but apart from that, they were all aware that the greatest ambition of the United States was the annexation of Canada.

Mr. G. T. Blackstock, K.C., expressed his appreciation of the enlightened patriotism and civil courage of their Liberal brethren on the platform, who had brought about that great meeting, and moved them to join issue with their comrades on the matters involved in this debate.

“The only course on earth by which Canadian nationality could be preserved was as a component part of the British Empire. The general aspect and character of the civilization of the United States is not one that we ought to follow.” He ventured the statement that the influence of the United States to-day among us was greater than it ought to be. On all the grounds mentioned, he opposed the reciprocity policy.