

tered into the arena of the other branch of parliament, the House of Commons, he was actively engaged for many years in the public business of the country and established for himself a reputation for honour and integrity which, so far as I am aware, was never impeached. Afterwards coming to this Chamber the late Senator Kerr identified himself very closely with the general business of and with the committee work of the Senate to such an extent that he certainly was a very great acquisition to the intelligence and to the ability of this body. Those who had the good fortune to come closely in contact with the late Senator Kerr will certainly mourn the loss of one who was possessed of every gentlemanly instinct. Senator Kerr was a good citizen. It fell to the fortune of few men to be more closely identified with public movements than the late senator. He was actively engaged for, I might say, a couple of generations in building up one of the great educational institutions of the country, and for many years was vice-chancellor of Victoria University. I doubt if any of the students, or those who have been associated with that university for the last half century have been able to give the continuous and active service to the building up of that institution that it was the good fortune of that university to secure in the service rendered by the late senator. He also occupied a very high position in the profession in which he was engaged. For many years, and at the time of his death, he was a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, thus indicating very clearly the very high esteem in which he was held by his professional brethren. He was a prominent lawyer and belonged to a local bar to which the judiciary of his province owes very many bright and intelligent minds. I might say, therefore, that I with other members of this Chamber at this time would lay my humble tribute of respect, esteem and sorrow on the bier of our late lamented colleagues.

THE ADDRESS.

The Order of the Day being called,

Consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech on the opening of the Third Session of the Tenth Parliament.

Hon. Mr. JAFFRAY—I intended to say something with regard to the death of the

late senators who have passed from us, but as that has been so efficiently and ably referred to by the hon. Secretary of State and the hon. leader of the opposition that it is unnecessary for me to say anything further on the question. I am sure that we all extremely regret that these hon. gentlemen have passed away. Hon. gentlemen, I regret that this important duty is not to be discharged by some one more competent to do it justice. Although I cannot plead youth nor that I have not had long experience and some activity in politics, it has not been on the platform, and certainly never before such an august body as I have now the honour of addressing.

Before proceeding further, may I express what I am sure is the feeling of sorrow of every senator and their deep sympathy for those who have suffered bereavement in the death of two of our members since we last met. They were deservedly highly esteemed and will be much missed from their places with us.

It is appropriate that His Excellency should open his speech with congratulations on the prosperity of the country, for never in its history did Canada enjoy such prosperity, whether it be agriculture, manufacture or merchantile business, and certainly the prospect for the future was never so bright notwithstanding the evils that are predicted to befall us according to some of our political opponents. The consolation is that the facts are all against them and the country is not prepared to believe in their sincerity or that they believe themselves what they say.

The country, and specially our great west, is deeply indebted to the present government for its admirable, efficient and highly successful immigration policy. During many years previous to 1896, instead of adding to our population to any extent we were contributing of our brightest youths to the upbuilding of our neighbour to the south. Now the tide is turned; many are returning and with them many of their best from the United States are pouring in to help to fill up the broad plains of our great Dominion.

It is gratifying to have the personal testimony of our very able and observant Governor General to the rapid development of the vast resources of our great Northwest and of the hope and confidence of the vig-