

I wish also to congratulate the new ministers of His Majesty. They have shouldered great responsibilities as well as honours. We must bow to their ability and personal merit, and wish them the greatest possible success in the accomplishment of their new tasks.

Although, perhaps, I may not always share the same views as the hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Guthrie), I have too broad a mind not to appreciate the well-deserved success which he attained at the Conservative convention, and it gives me great pleasure to offer him my sincere congratulations. Everybody recognizes his high qualifications and his experience.

In looking over the speech from the throne, I note that many legislative measures will be presented for the approval of this House. I shall not enter into the details of each one of said measures, many of which were left over from last session. However, I wish to draw attention to the one which will bring relief to the grievances of the maritime provinces, also to those which concern rural credits and the pensions to old age. We cannot grant too many favours and too much protection to the farming or labouring classes who will always remain, whatever may be said or done, the source of generous toils and heroic sacrifices, in a word, the basis of all national prosperity.

I also note with pleasure that the measures embodied in the speech from the throne interest all the people of the Dominion: Here, we find proposed measures which are of special interest to the west; there, the maritime provinces lay claim to their rights; further on, we come across measures which will benefit all citizens of Canada, the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, as well as the west and the maritime provinces. This tends to emphasize the nature of the present government's policy. Sir, is not this solicitude for the general welfare of the whole country remarkable? No part, class, or race is forgotten. Should we not be proud of an administration which, by a sound and well thought out policy, tends to dissipate all causes of grievances and friction? For the last five years, Sir, the government has put into practice this efficient policy of fair play, good understanding, and harmony and I state, without fear of contradiction, that this is one of the great reasons for their splendid triumph at the polls on September 14 last.

To be powerful and prosperous, a nation must be united, and there is no possible union should there exist reasons for some to complain of others. To redress grievances of classes, localities, or races by justice and conciliation, are the very means required to unite

the various elements of our young nation and thereby render it more prosperous and happy. The germs of peace which the government is prepared to sow in the hearts of our citizens will bear abundant fruit and the people will maintain in power for a long time those makers of union and peace. When these proposed measures come before us, Sir, we shall consider them calmly and judiciously, laying aside and sacrificing, if necessary, our personal interests and ambitions to think only of the interests of the nation as a whole, which demands everywhere and always citizens happy and contented with their lot.

As the right hon. Prime Minister stated, the party must serve the cause and not the cause the party. Consequently, when these measures are considered, we shall not have paltry and narrow views; but patriotism being the guiding light of the intellect and will of the representatives of the nation, we shall witness, I trust, a unanimous chorus of approbation in regard to this peace-making program.

Another aspect of the speech from the throne, which gives us pleasure to note, is the ever-increasing prosperity of the country. What a contrast, Sir, between the present conditions in Canada and those that existed five years ago. Look at the official statistics, read the statements of the Dominion banks, containing the views of authorities in financial matters.

Everything in 1921, reminded us of deficits in railways and in the general administration of the increase in the national debt and of trade and industrial failures of taxes always the more burdensome and the sorry nation, downcast and without hope, was drifting rapidly towards the deep chasm of hideous bankruptcy.

However, such is not its lot to-day. Canada is moving towards the future with a firm and assured step. A wave of enthusiasm has spread over the nation which knows no fear, now that a sound economy has put a stop to the series of disastrous failures and replaced them by surpluses in the budget, sufficient to decrease the national debt and realize reductions in taxation which burdened so heavily the Canadian rate-payers. Without fear and relieved from taxation, the people have faith and this faith stimulates their farming, trade and industrial activities. Thanks to this stimulant and also to the trade conventions with the other nations, production and sales have increased in our country. Our trade operations are profitable and show a favourable trade balance of more than \$400,000,000 for last year. In other words the amount of money disbursed by other nations increases so much more our national reserve and strengthens