

coal and steel industries to grow; secondly, we want a home market for our agricultural producers—that is, we want the hardship entailed by unfair competition from abroad removed and that market saved for our own people; thirdly, being the gateway of Canada, we want a fair proportion of the trade of Canada to go through our ports; fourthly, we want for our diversified manufacturing industries encouragement and protection where necessary—not the protection which will enable them to profiteer, but the protection which will enable them to live in certainty for the future; and, lastly, we want for our great fishing industry, an industry of inexhaustible resources, a chance to grow and prosper. I believe, Sir, that if we get these things to which I have drawn your attention the dream of Joseph Howe will come true:

That the day will come when Nova Scotia, small as she is, will maintain half a million men upon the sea.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. JULES-EDOUARD PREVOST (*Terrebonne*) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, in the brief time allotted to me, I wish to make a few remarks which may be considered as thoughts suggested by the budget rather than comments on the budget proper. And this is the reason: It seems to me absolutely unnecessary to praise the budget which was presented to us by one of the most popular finance ministers that Canada has ever had. On this side of the house, a number of speakers, financial experts, have sung its praise so highly and with such competence that I deem it useless to begin over again. The more so, as I feel that the task would be for me difficult. In regard to the opposition, their thoughts on the present budget, as expressed in their amendment, are so hazy and indistinct that one is obliged to look elsewhere to discover the real views of the government's opponents on the important political questions in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, it is interesting to note that the program of the Conservative party—in so far as they have one—must, to measure up with the thoughts and ideal of the Canadian people, unavoidably resemble the Liberal program. I could furnish numerous proofs to this effect. The attitude of the Conservative opposition on this budget is a further evidence.

It has for ever so long been admitted that politics is the science of concessions. This [Mr. Ernst.]

is especially true in a country as extensive as ours where government is so difficult and complicated owing to differences in situation, nationality and religious belief. Conservatives and radical Progressives—I mean those members of the opposition on the extreme left—object to this budget on totally different grounds, more than that, for reasons which are contradictory to, and exclusive of, one another. The Conservative amendment and the sub-amendment emanating from the extreme Progressives therefore clearly define the difficult situation that the government of this country has to face.

The happy medium policy, so consistently advocated by Laurier, is still the policy of the present government. It has been battered by extremists. However, it is still the policy needed in this country and the one which must eventually triumph as it does at present. This is so much the case that extremists of all shades are forced to admit and submit to it when they wish to attain practical results, face realities and the duties entailed by the latter.

Let us for the present consider the Conservative party only. The stand taken by them on the budget indicates fully well that they do not dare any more to boast of those great principles which they so loudly proclaimed, and that, not so long ago; very meekly and only to save appearances do they oppose in their amendment the policy of the Liberals. In the amendment to the budget moved by the hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Mr. Cahan), we find a weak, vague, lifeless, wavering and uninspired criticism; in that amendment, I say, we find the obscure policy inspired by the great Conservative convention held at Winnipeg in October last. This solemn congress brought together the entire forces of the Conservative party for the purpose of choosing a leader and defining their program. In the resolutions of this congress, the outcome of elaborate discussions, are to be found the obvious proof that the Conservative party cannot adopt a policy which suits the Canadian people without falling into line with the Liberal program. The resolutions adopted at that convention regarding the numerous issues with which the country is faced, in no way throw new light on our problems, but, under various forms, they endorse the policy adopted and put into practice by the Liberals.

Let us first examine the tariff question which for fifty years was their great battle-
steed. The tariff resolution passed at the Winnipeg convention, is indeed an abandon-