

home market, but in the world market. Trade disarmament will have to come before effective military disarmament. Prosperity will return and the world will continue to advance only if by and through the earnest collaboration of the nations trade peace is first secured. Political peace will follow as a logical consequence.

For a long time the conviction has been growing with me, and it is now profound, that the main and essential function of the League of Nations is economic, rather than social or political, and this has now become clear. The solution of the world's troubles is first and above all in the economic domain. The present social and political problems are largely incidental. What the world needs is an "Economic League of Nations," fully aware of and alive to its essential mission, having the will and the courage to administer, and to persist in administering, the internationally democratic economic remedy which I have indicated and but very imperfectly, I know, endeavoured to analyze.

I thank you very much, honourable members, for having listened to me so long and so patiently.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Is there no one else who desires to speak? I thought the honourable senator from Montarville (Hon. Mr. Beaubien) would have a few remarks to make. We have plenty of time before 6 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Why do you not proceed?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Well, if nobody else wants to speak I shall—and I shall not read my speech either.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Perhaps it would be better if you did.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: It could not be worse anyway.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. J. P. B. CASGRAIN: Honourable gentlemen, in the first place, of course, there is the custom—and even though it is worn and thread-bare, it is a good one—of paying compliments to the mover and the seconder of the Address. I am very sorry that the honourable gentleman from Alma (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne) has disappeared, because I was going to cover him with flowers.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Speaking seriously, the nomination of the honourable gentleman is a very good one. Of course there are

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT.

no politics in this House, and, as one who sits on this side, I take great pleasure in congratulating the Government upon his appointment. If I had had the power I would have appointed the same gentleman, even though he is a convert. Like many of the English Liberals of this country, he was converted on the Conscription issue, and he richly deserves his reward. He is a man of substance. Upon entering the Government he had to give up the presidency of the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company in order that he might devote himself to the service of his country. During the war he raised a regiment. It was a strain to do so, but he did it very well. I first knew him in 1909. At that time he was a Harbour Commissioner of the Port of Montreal along with George Washington Stevens, who was chairman of the Board, and Mr. Geoffrion. These gentlemen succeeded in putting the Commission on a business basis. The honourable member from Alma (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne) had been president of the Manufacturers' Association, he had the confidence of the business people of Montreal, and his business ability made him a very valuable member of the Harbour Commission. Since that time we have always had good Harbour Commissioners. There was some talk last session of the Government taking over the administration of the harbour, but it has enough to do without that, and should allow the Harbour Commissions to remain. I am very glad to welcome the honourable gentleman to this House. I hope he may be here as long as I have been. By that time he will be ready to go to the good place.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: As to the seconder of the Address, I must say that he spoke very good French. Even the right honourable gentleman (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) understood him; so he must have spoken good French and spoken it very distinctly. He also will be a credit to this House, and I commend the Government upon his appointment. The French people in the Northwest are not very numerous; nevertheless, they are entitled to a few senators. Previously we had one from Alberta; now we have one from Saskatchewan. So long as the Government continues that policy we will support it.

Now I come to the right honourable gentleman (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) who leads this House. It is a great honour to the Senate to have as its leader a gentleman who twice has been Prime Minister of Canada. I may