

try in the future, in the foremost rank of nations. Let our government pursue its policy of national progress. There is but one solid basis upon which we can build up the great Canada of to-morrow; it is upon that of a prosperous farming population, happy and jealous of its professional occupation and its country.

When Canadians are perfectly satisfied, and write to their friends overseas that they enjoy here perfect happiness, when the sons of farmers look upon their fathers professional occupation as the most beautiful and consoling one, when the workmen in cities look forth to the land to insure the existence of their family, then, we can open wide our doors to the immigrants who are physically fit and mentally well balanced. We can then open them very wide because great numbers will come. Let them come, in preference, from the British Isles, if they adapt themselves better to our conditions of life, but wherever they come from or whoever they be, they must conform to the Prime Minister's ruling, that is be strictly sound of body and soul.

I wish to congratulate the hon. Minister of Immigration (Mr. Forke) and his officials connected with the rigid application of this regulation, because those who have in view the Canada of to-morrow and the important part it will be called upon to play in the future civilization, are of the opinion that we should take no risk. Our burden is sufficiently heavy without having to carry that of others, and in order that the immigrant be an asset to Canada, he must be strictly sound of body and soul.

"The twentieth century will be Canada's century," according to a very clear-sighted prophecy, but it must especially be that of Canadians. Because the statesmen at the helm of the present administration show a truly enlightened patriotism, I shall support the well balanced budget of the hon. Minister of Finance, and I do it with the assurance that I am thus serving the interests of my riding and country.

Contrary to what we are to infer from the statement of the hon. member for Southeast Gray (Miss Macphail), there is no discipline in the Liberal party which forces its followers to vote for what they believe to be against the best interests of the country.

The party, for us, is the channel conveying our convictions, and we sacrifice ourselves only to better carry out the great principles that we cherish in common. The hon. member for Southeast Grey, has leagued herself with a group of members to propound certain ideas;

[Mr. Auger.]

she is wrong in reproaching us for doing likewise and insinuating that we have lost the freedom of thought and action, because we are affiliated to the Liberal party. The Liberal party's history goes back, so to speak, to the first days of the English rule, and it has traditions which link it very closely to the people of Canada. The Liberal party loves Canada, it loves the poor classes of our country, because it identified itself, at critical moments of our history, with their sorrows and difficulties. That party has no past to disown and it views the future serenely, because the leaders of to-day are worthy of their forebears. It is false to contend that we are traitors to the great principles of freedom and justice which always were at the basis of our political program.

However, we are enemies of disorder, and if we are slow in putting into practice the reforms which we advocated when in the opposition, it is because we do not wish to cause great confusion, we want order in our progress.

I shall recall to the house that in 1911, we made an appeal to the people on a question of trade reciprocity with the United States and we fell from power owing to not receiving the necessary co-operation from those who shared our ideas. I want to caution those Progressives from the west who are thinking of joining the Conservative party, that they will gain nothing by it, unless it be to prejudice the more the cause they have taken up.

Some MEMBERS: (Translation): Hear, hear!

Mr. AUGER (Translation): Co-operation is necessary to-day as yesterday, and to place in power a government of high protection might bring tardy but useless regrets to the sincere friends of a low tariff. We are moving slowly but nevertheless we are moving forward in the path traced by our illustrious predecessors, guided by the same standard and faithful to the principles for which we have fought and fallen, but to which we have never been traitors. If the progress on this path is difficult, slow and perilous, we are not downhearted, remembering the saying "Every thing comes to him who waits."

The Liberal party has undertaken to balance the finances of the country and to restore order, union, peace, harmony and prosperity. Its task is not completed, but what it has already accomplished reassures us for the future. Let those who love their country support us in the work of national restoration.