

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—We have our order paper and must follow it. If there is a practice that we should discuss and dispose of the address first I am quite willing to let my notices of motion stand, but I want to adhere to our rule. We have received petitions, reading of petitions and reports of committees were asked for and of course there were none. Then reports of committees were called for and notices of inquiries and motions also. We went through the routine proceedings to that extent, and when it came to notices of inquiries and motions they should have been called and I was willing to let mine stand until after the adoption of the address.

The notices of motion were allowed to stand.

Hon. Mr. ROCHE—I have risen for the purpose of moving the adoption of the address in response to the gracious speech of His Excellency the Governor General, and I shall take the liberty of making a few comments as I pass along upon the topics contained in that speech. It is obvious that the ancient sarcasm which has been almost crystallized into a proverb—the speech is more remarkable for what it does not contain than for what it does contain—does not apply to this speech, because it is replete with interesting and weighty subjects from beginning to end. His Excellency in a very pleasant way alludes to the mark of distinction conferred upon him by His Sovereign in extending his term of incumbency of the office of Governor General for another year, and the pleasure which he feels in again meeting parliament. We reciprocate that pleasure. All classes who have come into contact with the Governor General and his amiable lady have been impressed by their courtesy and kindness. He has taken infinite pains to devote his time and intelligence in investigating the various resources of the Dominion and employments and conditions of the people, and has not spared himself in going from one end of the Dominion to the other to fit himself for the discharge of his duties as presiding over this great Dominion. We trust that when he is further honoured by His Sovereign and occupies another, though perhaps not more dignified position, in the councils of the empire, one of the great assets and possessions of Canada will be

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the friendship and good offices of Earl Grey.

He has touchingly alluded—and I am sure the allusion produces a responsive emotion in all our hearts—to the early decease of our late lamented sovereign Edward VII. Cut off in the prime of life, cut off at a juncture when his influence would have a vast effect on the continent of Europe, cut off at a time when his influence would be great in the conflicts of parties in the mother land, and cut off at a time when his character would have been of great value to the world, I trust that he has gone to a richer crown than that of Great Britain and to a place where he will receive the Peacemaker's blessing. Every dark cloud has a silver lining. I saw him when he was a young man, and I saw him a month or two before his lamented decease, as he passed through the streets of the empire's metropolis to open his parliament. I saw the pleasant smile irradiating his face as he listened to the spontaneous plaudits of his people, witnessing to his universal popularity at home and that all parties and all the people of that vast city united in acclaiming him as the Sovereign of their hearts.

I said that every dark cloud had a silver lining. In the person of our present sovereign George Fifth, we have one among us who has taken the opportunity of witnessing the condition of affairs in all parts of the empire. In this Dominion he has journeyed from the west to the east. He has made kindly inquiry into our resources and become familiar with our public men and with many classes of our citizens. I have seen him frequently, walking as a private citizen in the streets of Halifax. He is very familiar with that important city and from his acquaintance with the shores of the maritime provinces, having been in command of a gunboat on that station, he will be better qualified, perhaps, than any sovereign since William IV. to take an intelligent interest in our maritime affairs and to understand the aspirations and wishes of the commercial interests of this great Dominion. A topic in the Governor General's speech is of great interest to us and that is 'The known and observable prosperity of the country at large as evidenced by its trade.'