

previously the name of two members of the cabinet, the Minister of Finance and the present Minister of Justice. I mention now the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. St. Laurent) and the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner). I mention also the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply (Mr. Howe), and I wish to pay him this tribute. We were fortunate indeed to have him at the head of so important a department during the war. He has done a job which was the admiration of the whole world, and I take second place to no one in honesty or sincerity, when I make this statement. I could mention every member of the cabinet without exception for their excellent services.

If I thought for a moment that the signing of an agreement with the dominion would be prejudicial to my own province I would be the first to oppose it. Why should anybody question the loyalty of members of parliament on any side of the house? Statements of the kind that I have just referred to are nothing but a reflection on the government and on every member of this parliament.

We have grievances in northern Ontario. I have heard an hon. member speaking of hydro electric power in New Brunswick, and it is all very well for members of parliament from southern Ontario to talk about the wonderful achievements of Ontario Hydro; but we have not yet Ontario hydro power in northern Ontario. We have developed all our mines and natural resources with private capital, and when we went to Toronto and appeared before the hydro electric, they said, "No. The field is not proven and we cannot go there at the present time". But individuals found it possible to go there. Through Ontario Hydro, we in northern Ontario have paid tens of millions in taxation to help bonus the southern part of the province. We did not begrudge that, because what is good for one section will eventually be good for every other part of the province. In my section there are farmers who have been farming for the last forty years, and in the summer months when there is rain they cannot get out because the mud is right up to their knees. We do not criticize that, because we know the territory is terrific and is too expansive to develop all at once. I repeat, we are logical, and I want the premier of Ontario to use the same logic in dealing with dominion-provincial relations as we use in northern Ontario in relation to Queen's Park and the provincial government, and with our real grievances we do not damn or condemn the administration.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that if we have the necessary cooperation there is no reason why

[Mr. Bradette.]

we cannot succeed, why we cannot arrive at constructive understanding. There need be no talk of hard bargaining. The hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario seemed to be scandalized because there was bargaining; but, after all, there must always be some give and take. There was bargaining at the time of confederation.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr. Golding): Order. The hon. member's time has expired.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Go on.

Mr. BRADETTE: I do not want to abuse the privileges of the house.

An hon. MEMBER: Go ahead and finish.

Mr. BRADETTE: I thank you most sincerely. The premiers of Ontario and Quebec will be in good company if and when they sign agreements with the seven other premiers, because those other gentlemen are all true Canadians, as much Canadians as any of us in this house, and it is a reflection upon them to think otherwise. Why should we try to create the impression that the other premiers came here as beggars? They came here not as beggars but as Canadians negotiating with other Canadians in an endeavour to find a solution to a common problem. We do not want any duplication of taxation, but we do want to have the social legislation that we stand in need of implemented, and it ill behooves the two richest provinces to take the attitude, "Well, if they haven't got the money it is too bad for them".

I repeat the statement of the hon. member for Davenport. The expansion of Toronto and the expansion of Montreal is due to the expansion of the rest of Canada. The expansion of northern Ontario has helped southern Ontario. I may say that two years ago when I spoke in this house I then complimented the premier of Ontario, Mr. Drew. I said that he did well at the conference two years ago, but I cannot say the same thing at the present time. Let him forget politics for a while and work for the whole of Canada and, as far as my section of the country is concerned, we shall be 100 per cent behind Mr. Drew. We believe in Ontario, but we believe still more in our wonderful country and welfare, which is Canada.

Mr. SKEY: Will the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. BRADETTE: Certainly.

Mr. SKEY: May I ask if he thinks that his province of Ontario should be guaranteed individual exclusive fields of taxation under this dominion-provincial agreement?