

the Empire. We all realize, honourable senators, that Canada must have prudent protection for the industries that now exist here, those that are coming here at present in large numbers, and those that will come in the future. But I see nothing un-British in that policy. There are a great many lines of manufactured goods that we do not make in this country and shall not be making for some years to come, and therefore I think there is no real reason why the members of the British family should not be able to frame at the Conference a preferential trade policy that would be of great benefit to all parts of that Empire to which we are so proud to belong.

We look forward with great expectations to the Conference. I feel that it is bound to help our grain producers on the prairies, and I think it ought to benefit our exporters of farm products, and all our varied industries in this country should obtain good results from it. I expect that the arrangements arrived at by the Conference will help in large measure to bring back that prosperity which unfortunately has not been with us to the extent that we should have liked during the last few years.

I have been informed that party feeling exists to a very limited extent in this House.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: I am glad to learn that, because that is as it should be. I understand that all legislation and other matters that come before the Senate from time to time are dealt with in the light of what is considered to be the best interest of the country, and when the important subjects mentioned in the Speech from the Throne, including the St. Lawrence waterways, transportation, etc., come here for consideration, they will be handled here in a broad national spirit.

In conclusion, honourable senators, may I be permitted to state that I think we in Canada are fortunate to have at the head of our Government, in another place, a man of such courage and ability as the Prime Minister of this country, who is guiding us through these times of stress and strain.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: We on this side of the House, at least, believe that with the ship of state under his able control, it will not be long until we reach that prosperity to which we are all looking forward. I thank you very much, honourable senators, for your patient attention.

Hon. ARTHUR MARCOTTE (Translation): Honourable members of the Senate,

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE.

at the outset of the brief remarks I intend to make in seconding this Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, may I be permitted to thank the Government for having continued, by my appointment to the Senate, the wholesome political tradition of giving representation to the minorities of the two great races that have founded this Dominion.

The invitation given me to second this motion is an honour intended chiefly for that great province in which I have lived for more than twenty years, the Province of Saskatchewan, and for the minority whom I have the privilege of representing here. The favour is increased by the opportunity it affords me to make my first address to the Senate in my native tongue. Such kind and delicate consideration is highly appreciated by my French-speaking fellow citizens.

At the beginning of the Speech from the Throne His Excellency the Governor General thanks His Majesty the King for having chosen him as Viceroy in Canada. Still more, I am sure, are the Canadian people indebted to His Majesty for so judicious a selection. Without attempting to cite all His Excellency's claims upon our admiration, I would refer to one that concerns particularly those of us who are French-speaking, namely, his ability to speak our language so well.

Those who were privileged to witness on Thursday last the ceremonies in connection with the opening of this Parliament will long remember the occasion. The dignity that marked the proceedings was enhanced by the charming presence of Her Excellency Lady Bessborough, whose grace, beauty and nobility were admired by all.

The Canadian people have on many occasions already expressed to His Excellency their loyalty and devotion to the British Crown. May we once more assure their Excellencies that since coming to this country as the representatives of the Throne they have won our lasting respect and affection.

Since last session the Grim Reaper, mercilessly at work among us, has taken from us a veteran statesman: Sir George Foster is no more. Voices more authoritative and more eloquent than mine have elsewhere pronounced his eulogy. Suffice it for me to say, as a tribute to his memory, that he was a great Canadian.

Sickness also has done its work, necessitating a change in the Government representation in this Chamber. The honourable senator for Moose Jaw (Hon. Mr. Willoughby), who in recent years, with so much dignity and talent, and so effectively, has performed the