

to possess defects, but it is within the power of the people at all times to make such changes as they think proper. The form of government which we have adopted is, as we all recognize, infinitely superior to that of the neighbouring republic. We have seen theirs break down repeatedly, and it is admitted to-day, even by its own citizens, that it is a failure. It may have answered in the days of Washington and Jefferson, one hundred and twenty-five years ago, but it is not suited to the state of society which exists in the United States to-day. There is not sufficient responsibility to Congress, so far as the President is concerned. He is as autocratic, almost, as the Czar of Russia. We, in Canada, enjoying greater liberty under our system, would never consent to anything of the kind if other conditions were possible, and, as I said before, the people of Canada are not only thoroughly attached to their own system of government and their own country, but also to the empire. In the past we have given evidences of our loyalty to the flag of England. I need not go back to the time when our forefathers settled in this country after the close of the war for independence in the United States. I am glad to say that a considerable number of our citizens now exist who can trace their descent from the U. E. Loyalists. Our ancestors gave the best possible proof of their loyalty to the flag, and later on, when England was engaged in struggles with other nations, they gave further proof of their attachment to the old flag, as they will be prepared at any time to do when necessity arises to defend their altars and their hearths. But, none of us need consider that contingency if we cultivate the arts of peace with our neighbours, and with no other nation can we be embroiled. Therefore, I hope that when we get the explanation of the proposed defences, it will be found they are to be exclusively confined to the outposts on the Atlantic and the Pacific, where they may be of service if England becomes embroiled in contests with any other power than the United States. I do not propose, so far as I am concerned, to move any amendment to the address.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.—I am glad to know that I am not called upon to criticise at any length the remarks of the leader of the opposition. I appreciate

the compliment which he has paid, not so much to myself as to the gentlemen who have recently been appointed to seats in the Senate. Last year the same compliments were bestowed, and the remark was made that those who had been selected were not only worthy of the position to which they had aspired, but that they would be creditable to the Senate and prove of great value in the legislation of the country. I am quite sure that the leader of the opposition will join with me in the same commendations upon the selections which have been made of the gentlemen introduced in the Senate during the present session. They will add not only dignity but value to our deliberations. If we require evidence of that fact we have it in the speeches which have been delivered by both the mover and the seconder of the address. They give evidence of a thorough knowledge of the business of Canada and show a proper appreciation of the country in which they live—of its great resources and the independent character of its people. After speaking of these appointments, the hon. gentleman referred to in his usual way—I hope he will not consider me wanting in courtesy when I say, that I think I heard the same expressions from him once or twice before—to the old, old story of the exodus from Canada, and the low prices which the farmers receive for their products. It is true that the prices are low. It is equally true that the prices of articles purchased by consumers are comparatively as low as are the prices they obtain for the products of their farms, and consequently they are in no worse position than they have occupied in the past when the prices for farm products were higher. We have been told a great many times, not only during the last year, but during the last Parliament, that there are large numbers of Canadians in the United States. Investigation proves that when we compare the population of the United States with that of Canada, that there are as many United States citizens in Canada in proportion to our population as there are Canadians in the United States compared with their population. It is a characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon and Celtic races to keep moving about. They are restless people and the rising generations are continually looking forward to bettering their positions in life, and therefore go to all parts of the world. What would Canada be to-day