

heard the late Mr. Monk say in the House of Commons that if every curé in his county canvassed for him he would lose his deposit. In election times, priests are far from being unanimous, some of them are Conservative, others are Liberal--and a good many are indifferent. We have had candidates like the late Dominique Monet elected for the House of Commons in Laprairie when almost every curé and vicaire in his county were against him. Moreover, the ordinary priest is not allowed by his bishop to meddle in politics. But if our rights were threatened we would not need to be stirred by our clergy to defend our cause. The priests would follow, they would not lead. We are a population of laymen and by laymen in politics we intend to be represented. This is also the opinion of many members of the clergy.

It is a mistake to believe that we are unable to see anything good outside our own Province. I admit that the people of Quebec, especially those living in the rural districts, do not take the interest they should in Dominion affairs. I know they are not greatly concerned with the wheat trade, the freight rates, the importation of coal, imperial affairs of the League of Nations, and they are no different in that respect from the majority of the ordinary farmers in other Eastern Provinces. They seem nevertheless to have understood the effect of the New Zealand treaty on the price of butter. Who will pretend that men working on the farm from dawn to evening in any part of Canada, are sufficiently informed to have a reasoned opinion on public questions? Our farmers are not worse in this respect than the provincial population of Great Britain, if one is to judge by newspaper comments on British elections.