

desire at Washington. All these privileges Congress would have the right to give to American fishermen by a reciprocal trade negotiation. I am not prepared to say what the effect of the proposed license of \$1.50 per ton will be—whether it will operate on the fishermen so favorably as to induce them to avail themselves of those privileges or not. It seems, however, to have been conceived in a very generous spirit, and all I can say is, I hope it will have the desired effect at Washington. My own impression is that it is exceedingly doubtful. Possibly Congress may treat this matter—or the Senate may treat it, just as that body treated the extradition treaty the other day—throw it out. All I can say is, from my standpoint I should not consider it very much loss. I should not consider it as great a loss as the extradition treaty. My opinion, and I fancy the opinion of the world, has changed materially as to the character of the United States Senate. I think that legislative body has fallen measurably in the eyes of good and moral men of all nations by the action they took the other day in declaring to the world that they were not prepared to adopt a treaty with a neighboring power by which the embezzlers, the forgers, the dynamiters and bomb throwers should be given up by one country to the authorities of the other where the laws of that particular country had been offended. I say it with very great regret, because the United States Senate has in the past been regarded as one of the highest legislative bodies in the world. Anybody speaking to a United States Senator personally on that subject would find that he would be quite as much shocked as one of us that a time should arise when the people of the United States should say to a friendly power “we prefer letting our criminals go amongst you, and we prefer holding your criminals here—we do not propose to give them up. We despise them. We detest them. They ought to be in the penitentiary, but we will harbor them. Let us encourage thieving. Let us encourage immorality. Let us encourage bomb throwing, bank robbery and the wrecking of moneyed institutions. It is the right thing. It is in accordance

with the spirit of the age; it is the nineteenth century policy.” I say that it is most discreditable, and if this Government would take advice from me, I should suggest that at this session we pass an Act, wholly irrespective of the United States, giving power to the people of this country to extradite all criminals who seek a refuge and a haven in this Dominion of ours. Then we should no longer be pointed at with contempt and disrespect; it should not be said that men who rob and plunder in New York can come over to Canada and live in palaces in Montreal and Quebec on the proceeds of their dishonesty. I hope the leader of the Government of this House will take a note of it, and if he does as I suggest he will act wisely and well and set a good example by placing on our statute book a law by which such men shall not be allowed to enjoy the spoils which they have secured by their dishonesty in the country south of us. If we adopt that course it will create such a feeling in the United States that Congress will be forced to adopt an Extradition Treaty, or at all events provide by similar laws that Canadian refugees who have offended the laws of this country shall be returned here for punishment, and we will no longer witness that which shocks every man with any sense of propriety, our country being made a haven of refuge for those who should otherwise be serving out their terms in the penitentiary.

I do not propose to go at length into the various paragraphs that follow in this speech. They are not very many, and not very important. They, no doubt, provide in some degree for laws that may be of importance to be added to our statute book. They are laws in the enactment of which we all, irrespective of political feeling, may take a part. Reference is made here to the lessening of the expense of the Franchise Act. The only way that the Government can lessen the expense of that Act is to adopt the common sense plan of taking the franchise of the Provinces, or by leading the way and adopting manhood suffrage.

The Speech, beyond the allusion to the Fishery Question, is utterly barren, except of the few questions to which I have already called attention. It is