

men have acquired, and matured by long service in the House of Commons, to be an asset of Canada, an asset of which we should take advantage in public affairs, and I know of no more desirable channel through which to pass to secure that asset than for hon. gentlemen who have served in the House of Commons many years than through the Senate of Canada. We have amongst us a number of hon. gentlemen who have had the experience to which I have referred, and I hope that many of the additions from time to time to the ranks of this honourable body will come from that particular source. It is therefore with no uncommon pleasure that I extend my congratulations to my hon. friends who have been introduced this session, and I hope they will not cease to exercise that same activity in this Chamber that I know characterized them in the House of Commons. One might safely make the suggestion to some of the members of this House that a little additional activity, a little additional interest in the proceedings of the Chamber and in the various duties of the committees would possibly place the Senate in a very much more favourable light before the country than that which we have occupied. Permit me to join with the mover and seconder of the address in expressing my satisfaction at the acceptance by His Royal Highness of the Governor-Generalship of Canada. His appointment has been received throughout the Dominion with profound satisfaction and appreciation. This is the first occasion in the history of this Dominion that a member of the royal family has done us this great honour. It is in fact, I believe, the first occasion in the history of the self-governing dominions that a member of the reigning family has identified himself by residence in the national activities of the greater empire beyond the seas. We regard this as a tribute to Canada, and as indicative of a more organic union in imperial affairs that at an early day must bring together the separate political units which constitute the empire. It must be gratifying to all of us to know that the Governor General is equipped with a ripe experience gathered in every part of the empire. Therefore Canada extends to His Royal

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED.

Highness and his gracious royal consort, who through her many graces will adorn the office with him, the most loyal welcome, which a most loyal people can extend, and we hope Their Royal Highnesses' term of office in Canada may be to themselves and to us one of supreme satisfaction, pleasure, and success.

There is a clause in the address to which my hon. friends have already made allusion, foreshadowing that it is proposed to take the tariff out of politics. Notwithstanding the fact that my right hon. friend has long been a critic of tariffs, I awaited his criticism of this particular clause in the address. I, however, ascribe to him that good judgment of not being critical as to the desirability of establishing a tariff board for the purpose of placing on a scientific basis the tariff of Canada. I need not say that the fiscal policy of a nation is ever controversial. It is a human product and except for the effort that has been made in the United States of recent years to place the tariff on a scientific basis, I am unaware of any other nation having attempted to take the tariff out of politics, to free it from that pressure of special interests which is invariably brought to bear upon its making. I believe that public opinion in Canada will sanction and approve the adoption by the government of a proper measure for the appointment of a tariff board to place the tariff of our country upon a fair and equitable basis. The difficulty with tariffs, not only in Canada, but the United States, and in the various protective countries of Europe, has been that they are framed chiefly in proportion to the importunities or special efforts which are brought to bear in moulding their schedules. There is not a gentleman in this Chamber who is not familiar with the way in which amendments are secured from time to time in our tariff. If a special interest—a very influential or dominant one, influencing to a very large extent, as many of them do, the political destiny of one party or another, will reflect such influence in public tariffs. The relation between the producer and consumer is very seldom considered, and it is time public opinion became aroused in Canada so that we may have a tariff which may be proof against the