

respect of their national feelings and religious belief.

I beg to move :

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of parliament, namely :—

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Albert Henry George, Earl Grey, Viscount Howick, Baron Grey of Howick, in the county of Northumberland, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, and a Baronet; Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, &c., &c., Governor General of Canada,

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of parliament.

Hon. Mr. BLACK—Through the courtesy of the hon. Secretary of State, it is my privilege to second the motion to adopt the address in reply to the speech from the Throne, and, although for many years engaged in public affairs, in attempting to speak before hon. gentlemen who have been distinguished by successful public careers and have earned for themselves a prominent place in the history of their country by their industry and their talents and their patriotic achievements, I may be pardoned if I feel a degree of diffidence only partially overcome by a sense of duty. The hon. mover of the address has delivered, I am sure, an eloquent and admirable speech, but unfortunately for me, not having acquired the use of the French language, I was not able to enjoy the full pleasure of an appreciation of its merits; but from the synopsis of his remarks, which he gave us in English, I am safe in saying that if we could have understood it in the French language and appreciated the eloquence of his sentences, the patriotism, the enthusiasm and the poetic touches which he gave his address, we would all be filled with admiration. If it were my misfortune to lose the use of the English language, and I were permitted to acquire any other, it is the French language I would be most happy to be possessed of. I made a great mistake in my earlier years in not having acquired a knowledge of French. Many hon. gentlemen, no doubt, have had the same experience as mine, that

they did not expect in their earlier years to occupy a position in which a knowledge of French is so convenient and important.

His Excellency the Governor General expresses his pleasure in being permitted to represent His Majesty in the Dominion of Canada. From what we know of the character, the sterling worth and distinguished ability of His Excellency, we are sure that we are voicing the sentiments of the Canadian people when we say that they experience equal, if not greater pleasure, in recognizing His Excellency as the representative of His Majesty the King.

In the speech we find an expression which is very forceful in connection with this happy country of ours. It is referred to in the speech, and very properly so, as 'a favoured land.' Let a Canadian traverse the whole world in search of a better country and he will come home satisfied that, all things considered, there is no land that offers larger opportunities for freedom, liberty, prosperity, peace and happiness; and no country can produce stronger men both in body and mind and finer women, proof of which was amply and substantially shown at the opening ceremonies of the first session of this the tenth parliament, when so many of the fair mothers and daughters of our country graced the occasion by their presence, displaying a wealth of health and beauty, seldom witnessed in any country.

The honourable mover of the address has taken a good deal of latitude, traversing, as I understand it, not only the present but a good deal of the history of the past, and of course we were filled with pleasure when we heard his forceful remarks in regard to bringing together these two nations in a union so happily consummated. When we look a little further back than the hon. gentleman did when he referred to the strike at Quebec, when we look back to a time in the memory of many of us when the great struggle of the battle of Waterloo took place and contrast the strike and dissensions between those two great nations, with the spectacle that we have before us in this country of the two races sitting down together in peace and happiness and prosperity to work out the destiny of this new country as best they can with an unselfish purpose before them, it is something to fill every heart with admiration for what has been accomplished.