

are large and populous American cities affording the orchardists the best possible market for their No. 1 or fancy fruit; and it was their system to sell their fancy grades in that market and to send in their other grades on consignment to our prairie provinces—which are naturally the markets for the Okanagan fruit—at prices which meant ruinous competition for our growers, and which glutted the prairie markets until on some occasions not a box of British Columbia fruit could be sold. It was under these circumstances that the fruit growers of our district approached the Government as I have indicated and were successful in getting the tariff raised. In 1910 the production of fruit in British Columbia amounted to \$250,000. By 1919 this had grown to such an extent that out of the Okanagan Valley alone was shipped fruit and its by-products, including canned and evaporated goods, amounting to over \$7,000,000—an almost phenomenal growth in something short of ten years, due, as I have said before, to the protection given our industry by the tariff.

Speaking in a general way, Sir, on this tariff question, as far as I myself am concerned I belong to a class who are firmly convinced that the economic safety and prosperity of this Dominion depend upon following a similar course in regard to a protective tariff to that pursued in succession by Conservative, Liberal and Unionist Governments. I belong to a class that have perhaps two fundamental principles in regard to their political creed. First, as regards the larger realm of the British Empire, we believe most firmly in what we consider to be a sane system of Imperialism; we believe in maintaining the closest possible affiliations and associations with the Mother Country, while at the same time leaving Canada absolutely mistress in her own house. And as regards our domestic policy, we conceive that, to say the least, any deviation from the principle which underlies a protective tariff is a course of folly leading straight forward to disaster.

Now, Sir, I have noted some other points upon which I thought I might speak, but I think perhaps, in spite of the kind invitation to extend my remarks, I will not transgress further upon the good nature of the House. But there is just one other point to which I should like to make brief reference, and perhaps it is not altogether the most unimportant topic to which our attention might be directed. The remarks from the mover concerning the “sounding

[Mr. MacKelvie.]

sea,” reminded me that I too was privileged during my boyhood days to watch the tide come up the bay of Fundy—and although I saw the bore I did not, I hope, become one in consequence! But I was going to say that it was my privilege then to be associated in that country, which contains a very large French population, with a number of boy friends of that race, and the endearing associations then formed, and the respect and esteem in which I have held the French people ever since, have never been obliterated. I thought it was particularly fortunate that in his first political speech after being raised to the high position of Prime Minister, the leader of the Government expressed himself in such forceful terms on the necessity of fostering in this country every possible sentiment that would tend towards bringing about more amicable relations between the two great races which form the bulk of our population. I think he touched a chord then which must have found a deep response in every true Canadian breast.

I wish to remark in conclusion, that I hope nothing will occur during the course of this Parliament that will even in the very slightest degree tend to create any dissension between the two races. I wish I were capable of expressing the sentiments which I desire to convey in the beautiful French tongue, but I am debarred from that pleasure, and in rougher and less ready language I wish to say that it is my sincere hope that we will all with one accord endeavour to foster and stimulate everything tending towards an increase of amicable relations and deeper friendship between the two races, until in fact and in deed the time may come as far as Canada is concerned when the names French and English are merged into the more general and more comprehensive one of—Canadian.

Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to extend my congratulations to the hon. members who have just moved and seconded the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I am sure that my hon. friend the member for King's, P.E.I. (Mr. McIsaac) will look upon this as a sort of field day for Prince Edward Island, inasmuch as he and I, comprising half the representation of that province, have been privileged to be the first speakers in this important debate. That his speech was very creditable to himself and to the Island, is, I think, the highest compliment that could be paid him. I hope he will not feel that