

condition of affairs that our relations with Germany since 1903 should have been disrupted, and that they should thus have continued, especially in view of the policy of the present government to negotiate treaties with foreign powers. When my right hon. friend comes to speak on this subject, I should like to have some information upon an article which appeared in the 'London Times' very recently, in which it was stated that negotiations had been opened up with the Dominion of Canada, relative to the promotion or development of economic trade relations with Germany and the removal of those reprisals which had existed between the two countries. I understand also from what has appeared in the European press that a line of steamers has been established or will be established at an early date, between Germany and Canadian ports, and I observe further that in Germany alone some of the representative men of that country have formed a committee to promote better trade relations with Canada. It seems to me that reference should be made in the address to these matters, if they have been the subject of negotiations between the two governments. Another matter, to which attention might have been directed in the address—it is a matter to which public attention has been given—namely that the President of the United States, at a recent date, sent a special envoy to the Prime Minister of the Dominion, and the Governor General of Canada, and also to the government of Mexico, inviting those countries to send representatives to attend a conference to be held in Washington on February 18, with a view to the conservation of the natural resources of these countries. From the press reports the envoy was received by the Governor General and the Prime Minister of Canada and yet no reference has been made to it neither in the address, nor on the floor of the House. It is an opportune time that attention should be given to the conservation of our public resources. Of late years we have been prodigal, we have been reckless in, not only alienating those resources, but in being remiss in regard to taking proper steps for their preservation. I need not point out that nearly two-thirds

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of the timber resources of the new provinces have been alienated by the government for practically no consideration. I might allude also to the fact that nearly all the coal lands of that western country have been alienated without any or little regard being paid to the operation, or to the development of those resources. Hence, if public attention can be directed, by an international conference such as has been outlined in the message of President Roosevelt to the proper conservation of our resources, it will certainly conduce very much to the benefit and advantage of Canada.

In connection with my hon. friend assuming the responsibility of the leadership of this House, I should like to say that almost every session attention has been directed to the remissness of the government in not furnishing the Senate with work and recognizing the duties of this body as entitled to participate more largely in the legislation of the country. That has been attributed more or less to the fact that the government has from time to time decreased its ministerial representation in this chamber. I regret to say that this has now been reduced to one representative. My right hon. friend will be a host in himself, yet it certainly suggests the question, does the government intend to give further ministerial representation upon the floor of the Senate? I have no doubt my hon. friend from De Lorimier will qualify for that position at a very early date, if he has not done so already, and may possibly arrange at an early date to take his place as member of the cabinet. In all seriousness I for one would protest against the reduction of ministerial representation upon the floor of the Senate to one minister from a cabinet that has been substantially increased since my hon. friends have taken office. I hope, therefore, that my right hon. friend will exercise the same vigour with reference to asserting the constitutional rights of the Senate in having an equal share in the legislation of the country as he has done on other occasions in his political career.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—After the very interesting and able address which we have just listened to from my hon. friend, I think I will probably consult