

Lieutenant Governor last year what was the order of precedence followed in the local legislatures, and I received an official answer sending me a copy of the order of precedence as followed here, and I had an official letter telling me that that was the order followed at Spencerwood. If there had been any other order, no discussion would have taken place.

THE ADDRESS.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Middlesex) moved:

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, Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of The Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, etc., etc., Governor General and Commander in Chief in and over the Dominion 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.

He said: His Excellency's speech is characterized by more than usual brevity. Nevertheless it summarizes matters of great importance to this House and to the people of Canada. We rejoice with him in the optimistic note which is expressed in the first and second paragraphs of the speech. The first paragraph says:

In again meeting you at a season most convenient for the despatch of business, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on the prosperous condition of the country.

Then, in the second paragraph, he refers to the various elements of that prosperity, such as the large immigration, the increase in trade and commerce, the relief from financial embarrassment, and the activity which prevails in every department of industry. We are to a certain extent dependent for our prosperity and for the development of our country upon immigration. It is gratifying to notice that in the last ten years, as His Excellency says, there has been a steady and progressive flow of

immigration into Canada. From 1898 to 1908 we received 1,198,027 settlers. In the last twelve months we received 167,360, not quite as many as came to us annually a few years ago; still perhaps as many as, with our limited native population, we can properly assimilate. Of the total immigration into Canada in the last ten years, 560,000 were from the United States, and of that number 70,000 came within the last nine months. In the twelve months ending August 31, there came from Great Britain 80,094, and from continental Europe 22,550. There is certainly variety as well as abundance in these figures. It is gratifying to note that immigration from the United Kingdom keeps pace practically with the immigration from the United States. Both classes of settlers are desirable; those from Great Britain because they are in full sympathy with our institutions and our form of government, and those from the United States because they understand the peculiarities incident to prairie farming. Although not trained under the same government as we are, they are still thoroughly democratic and I believe thoroughly in sympathy with Canadian institutions. The number of immigrants is gratifying because, as I said at the outset, without this large immigration the development of Canada would necessarily be slow. The United States owes much of its progress and success, I may say also of its prosperity, to large immigration. For a few years following the close of the Civil War, immigration into the United States numbered half a million a year, and in the last decade nearly a million a year. The population of the United States to-day would perhaps be not more than thirty or forty millions were it not for the large immigration in the last thirty or forty years. If we should succeed, and we should not relax our efforts to succeed, that flow of immigration should in the next ten years add not less than 1,500,000 to our population, and this, with the natural increase in the country should, with reasonable certainty, give us within the next ten years a population of ten millions. The strength which population adds to a country cannot be estimated. Bigness is not necessarily strength, but population is necessary to develop the