

be changed. We should not place in the hands of the Controller of Customs, subject to the Governor in Council, the right to say what nation should come under the favoured-nation clause. Further, we should not give power to the Governor in Council to reduce or remove entirely duties on any articles as that body might see fit. As regards the tariff, in some respects I am satisfied with it. If the general tariff were allowed to remain, I should not have much complaint to make; but in regard to other features I am very much opposed to them on the grounds that they are not in the interest of Canada, that they are radically wrong and unsound in principle and that they are not what Canada requires. We require a protective tariff to-day as much as it ever was required in the history of the country, and in my opinion we should stand by such a tariff.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to discuss at any great length the merits of the tariff, and I shall devote my efforts largely to a discussion of a few features of it as those features affect Manitoba and the North-west Territories. Before, however, I enter upon a discussion of these points I wish to make one remark with respect to a statement made by the hon. member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule). The hon. gentleman spoke of his loyalty and with a great flourish he announced that he would take back water to no man in the Empire as regards his loyalty to the British Crown, and then he went on to say with respect to the tariff that his idea of loyalty was that he would give nothing unless he obtained something in return. It occurred to me that that was putting the question of loyalty on a dollar and cent basis, and I do not think it reflected very much credit on the sentiments expressed by the hon. gentleman. He seemed greatly disturbed because of the article which the London "Times" has published applauding Canada for its tariff, and he also sought to make some explanations with respect to the same. I will read, with the permission of the House, a despatch which appears in the "Globe" of to-day with respect to a motion of which notice has been given in the Imperial House by Sir Charles E. H. Vincent, and I call attention to the fact that that gentleman is a Conservative and a free trader. The motion reads as follows:—

The House expresses grateful and fraternal recognition to the Government and people of the Dominion of Canada of the generous fiscal changes in favour of British trade and labour, announced on Friday by the Parliament of Ottawa and already in force, and hopes this first step towards a commercial federation of the Empire will be followed by Australasia, South Africa and the other colonies.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. J. O. Chamberlain, replying, said the Government cordially appreciated the friendly spirit shown by the tariff action of Canada.

Mr. SPROULE.

I call particular attention to these remarks as coming from one of the foremost British statesmen in the British Empire.

But, he added, I understand the proposals do not depend upon any alteration of the system of free trade established in the United Kingdom.

Now, Sir, if you will permit me, I should like to supplement this motion with a poem which appears in the London "Times" from the pen of Rudyard Kipling, probably the future poet laureate of the British Empire:

A nation spoke to a nation,
A queen sent word to a throne:
Daughter am I in my mother's house,
But mistress in my own.
The gates are mine to open
As the gates are mine to close,
And I set my house in order,
Said the Lady of the Snows.

Neither with laughter nor weeping,
Fear or the child's amaze,
Soberly under the white man's law
My white men go their ways.
Not for the gentile's clamour,
Insult or threat of blows,
Bow we the knee to Baal,
Said our Lady of the Snows.

My speech is clean and single,
I talk of common things,
Words of the wharf and market-place
And the ware the merchant brings.
Favour to those I favour,
But a stumbling-block for my foes,
Many there be that hate us,
Said our Lady of the Snows.

I called my chiefs to council,
In the din of a troubled year,
For the sake of a sign ye could not see,
And a word ye would not hear.
This is our message and answer,
This is the path we chose,
For we be also a people,
Said our Lady of the Snows.

Carry the word to my sisters,
To the Queens of the East and South.
I have proved faith in the heritage
By more than the word of mouth.
They that are wise may follow,
Ere the world's war trumpet blows,
But I, I am the first in the battle,
Said our Lady of the Snows.

A nation spoke to a nation,
A queen sent word to a throne:
Daughter am I in my mother's house,
But mistress in my own.
The gates are mine to open
As the gates are mine to close,
And I abide by my mother's house,
Said our Lady of the Snows.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I shall discuss the tariff especially from the point of view of Manitoba and the North-west Territories. I may say at the outset that when I decided to enter parliamentary life, and when I went into the constituency of Lisgar, I told the farmers of that county on every platform: Gentleman, it makes no difference to you whether the Government in power at Ot-