

sit on the other side of the House. Yesterday afternoon we listened to the plea of my honourable friend the leader for mutual forbearance in this House. So far as I am concerned, when the Government are right they shall receive every consideration from me, but when they are wrong I will exercise my right of differing with them. But why comes this appeal from my honourable friend? Had his advent to the House occurred only yesterday, he might be excused. But was he not in this House when there were three Liberal ministers in it? By the way, there was then a Liberal majority too, and I assume that had there been a Liberal majority in this House to-day there would have been three Liberal ministers as well. Our sympathy must go out to my honourable friend from Portage la Prairie (Hon. Mr. Watson), the nestor on that side of the House, that he is not in the Cabinet. Sympathy must be extended also to my honourable friend from De Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Casgrain), for I am sure that after all the work he has done for the party it was to be expected that he would be embraced in the Cabinet. The trouble is, the Cabinet could not stand members from the Senate, because there were such demands from various parts of the country. In the first place, there were exigencies to be met. It is true the late Government were defeated—why? By reason of certain actions of theirs, and their general line of conduct during the war. But why did not the honourable gentlemen opposite, without any record at all and with only promises in front of them, succeed in some of the provinces? It was because the people feared them for the forbearance they showed when they were in before, and dreaded the thought of their coming. Consequently, what do we see to-day? The great province of Quebec surfeited with Cabinet ministers. Alberta would not furnish a member for the Government; so Quebec had to take in the Cabinet minister from Alberta. Why has Manitoba not a minister in the Cabinet? True, there is a member from Manitoba who supports the Government, but they knew what would happen if he had to go back to his province for re-election; so of course Manitoba too is out in the cold—it is unrepresented in the Cabinet that was to represent the whole of Canada. And look at the attenuated position of the province of Ontario to-day. Go down to its extreme south-west corner and in three adjacent ridings, South Essex, North Essex and

Kent, you find three Cabinet ministers. Why are they congregated there? Is all the wisdom of the province of Ontario in that section? No, honourable gentlemen, but there is a large French and German vote in those three ridings, and that is the reason they are congregated there. Then you skip all of English-speaking Ontario and come east to the county of Russell, which has a French and Irish vote amounting to seventy per cent. That county has a Cabinet minister. Then, turn to the riding which adjoins it—if I am right in my geography—and you find a gentleman who is in the Cabinet, although without portfolio. Why was he appointed? Because his constituency has a large French and German population.

It is all very well for honourable gentlemen opposite to boast that they have carried the country. They have carried it in a way, and yet when it comes to a question of numbers in the House of Commons they are to-day in a minority; and, worse than that, to use the classical phrase of a former minister, a French Canadian, they are fighting like blazes even now—these ministers and this peaceful aggregation.

What is Ontario's situation to-day? It has a split-up representation. But what about the representation of the great Liberal party in the province of Ontario? To-day, out of eighty-two ridings in the province of Ontario, they hold only seven where the English-speaking vote is in the ascendancy, and the German vote and French vote are not considerable factors. Only seven! Yes, they hold North York: the Premier holds that. They hold South Ontario—why? My honourable friend who preceded me (Hon. Mr. Turriff) mentioned the question of automobile duties. If there is any question that exercises the farmers of the Northwest and the people of Canada generally, it is the question of the duty on automobiles, but I can say to my honourable friend, "Peace, be still: there will be no change in automobile duties." The result of the election in South Ontario brought about by the influence of the automobile manufacturers guarantees that there will be no change in that respect. Let the future prove the truth of my statement. Who is the head and front of the automobile industry in this country? A minister of the Crown has a great deal to do with it and comes from a district whose influence permeated every riding in which there was an automobile industry