

sometimes copied his Latin and English translations at which he was very good, and I frankly admit that were his speech not printed in *Hansard*, I should be tempted to copy it in its entirety.

I congratulate the hon. member on his success. He is an honour to his family and his constituency and I trust that he will be re-elected at the next elections, in order that he may fill the important role he is destined to play in the public life of Canada.

I wish to emphasize the good fortune which our country enjoys in having at the head of its government, in these troublous times, a man so able, so sincere, so patriotic and so truly Canadian as the present Prime Minister.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is acknowledged as one of Canada's greatest statesmen. Future historians, who will be able to analyse and compare the lives and careers of the two great leaders of the Liberal party, will write in the history of our country that the disciple was comparable to the master.

The announcement of the visit to Canada in May next of Their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth has caused a spontaneous feeling of joy to the entire Canadian people. All the citizens of Canada will want to manifest their loyalty and fidelity to these two illustrious personages who represent for us the supreme authority.

Mr. Speaker, the Liberal party has always been opposed to absolute protection. I have always been a believer in the Liberal tariff policy, according to which in order to sell to other countries we have to buy from them and consent to certain reciprocal concessions. In 1935 we concluded a trade agreement with the United States, and no one now dares to maintain that it was not advantageous to Canada. Nevertheless, the then leader of the opposition expressed the same fears and complaints as the present leader. I quote his words from *Hansard*, page 38, volume 1, session of 1936:

No man, however great he may be, can in twenty-four hours, forty-eight hours or seventy-two hours complete a trade agreement with the United States. And if he does—or did—it would have only one result, that he has been properly trimmed. I think the latter alternative will be the one which history will show fits the case.

Subsequent developments have justified the government's action and shown up the then leader of the opposition as a poor prophet. I am convinced that the agreements of November 17th last will be profitable to the farmers and lumbermen of my constituency. To the farmers, by opening important markets for their products; to the lumbermen, by facilitating the export of forest products, thus tending to decrease the unemployment existing in

[Mr. Leduc.]

my section of Quebec province on account of the considerably reduced activity in lumbering operations.

Moreover, the present government has performed a national service. Indeed, is not the civilization which we hold so dear chiefly based on friendly relations between the English-speaking countries of the world? Between the Dominion of Canada, the United States of America, Great Britain and the other British Dominions? The agreements in question have strengthened the bonds of friendship which unite these two sections of the English-speaking world.

I wish to congratulate the Minister of Labour for his untiring efforts towards finding a solution to the unemployment problem and, more particularly, for his youth training program.

Extension courses in agricultural subjects were given in my constituency under the Bilodeau-Rogers agreement.

I would suggest to the minister the advisability of including in that program the training of tourist guides. The house is aware that, every year, numerous tourists from abroad, in search of beautiful scenery, and of fish and game, spend their holidays in the wonderful county of Gatineau. They ask for trained guides. But, unfortunately, one cannot be a guide, no more than a carpenter, without possessing the necessary knowledge. Accordingly, the Minister of Labour would be well advised to discuss with Hon. Mr. Bilodeau the possibility of giving that training to some of our young men.

The government has announced its intention to increase the National Defence estimates by \$63,000,000.

I also know that the question of building plants for the manufacture of war material is under study. In that connection, I would ask the government to give careful consideration to the memorandum submitted by the town of Aylmer to the Department of National Defence.

A few miles from Ottawa, there lies a town, once prosperous, in which some 150 families are now unemployed due to the closing of the industries that had made possible the development of that town. Good sites and abundant electric power are available in Aylmer, as well as unspecialized workers anxious to learn a trade and work.

I would therefore ask the government to give serious consideration to the situation of Aylmer before taking a decision in regard to the building of a plant for the manufacture of war material.