

a section of the British people, not to understand how completely ignorant these people are of what they are talking about; but I can tell them this, that if they did know anything of Canadian history they would know that they had done their best—their little best it may be—to depreciate the one government that did any respectable service to the empire within my time and generation at least.

There are one or two points apart from these on which I desire to say a word, and first as to the attitude of the Senate itself. I know I speak for my hon. friends beside me when I say that my hon. friend opposite will meet with no factious opposition or criticism from this side of the House; but he will do well to remember that the present House of Commons can hardly be considered more than a provisional House of Commons. The present House of Commons is not in the proper sense of the term a true and representative body at all. At this moment the House of Commons contains a large proportion of members from the east, more than the east is entitled to, and on the other hand this present House of Commons hardly allows to the Northwest more than half the representation it is properly entitled to, and until that anomaly is removed, until the House of Commons does fairly represent the people of Canada, it is hardly entitled to the same rights and privileges as might be accorded to it under other circumstances. My hon. friend himself on former occasions complained—and I am bound to say not without reason—of the way in which the government of the day used to treat the Senate in not giving them due time to consider important measures proposed to them. I cry 'peccavi,' although I tried my best to remedy the evil as a member of that government, and I now formally tender to my hon. friend on my own part and on behalf of my hon. friends beside me, our hearty support in aiding him to bring his colleagues to a proper sense of their duty in that respect. I have no doubt my hon. friend will do his best, and I hope and trust that with our aid he will succeed in bringing about a better state of things in the future than has prevailed

in the past. To himself I tender my congratulations. I am extremely pleased that he should be leader of the Senate. During the time I sat on the other side, I had every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which my hon. friend conducted his task as leader of the opposition, and I have no doubt that the same pleasant relations will prevail between us in the future as in the past. As to you, Mr. Speaker, I have not the slightest doubt that you will worthily fill the high office to which you have been appointed; I am sure you will be much missed from the floor of the House, and I will pledge my word to you that so long as you remain in the chair, no question will be put to you from this side of the House for which we will not be able to obtain an ample precedent in some of the questions put by yourself from your former place in this body.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I join with my right hon. friend in congratulating the mover and seconder of the address for the very able and genial manner in which they have performed the task placed in their hands. A task of this nature in the Senate possibly is not so easy as it is in the Commons. There is here an absence of that spectacular influence which gives to a speaker inspiration by which he very frequently calls up oratorical powers which in all probability will lie latent in the absence of any special cause to evoke them. It is also very satisfactory to find that the four members of this House that have been introduced into the Chamber during the present session are old parliamentarians from the House of Commons. Notwithstanding the many attacks which from time to time are made in that chamber upon the Senate; notwithstanding the many unfriendly criticisms which are advanced not only by members of the Commons but by the press of the country with reference to the reformation of this Chamber, it is certainly gratifying to find that ex-members of the House of Commons are always found sufficiently courageous to take a seat in this House when tendered it. I hope this will continue. I have always regarded the experience and judgment which hon. gentle