

see in the province of Alberta, on the fertile banks of the Saskatchewan, where that policy of conciliation has above all borne fruit, a monument representing Sir Wilfrid Laurier carrying to the new provinces words of peace and conciliation.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I have very great pleasure in observing the precedent which has been so well established of congratulating the mover and seconder of the address upon the manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them. It invariably falls to the lot of new members to make their maiden speech under the same auspicious circumstances that my hon. friends from Toronto and Edmonton have spoken to-night. In fact it has fallen to the lot of most of us at one time or another to discharge this duty, and in doing so we have a distinct recollection that the occasion was not prolific of suggestiveness, nor was the atmosphere of this chamber inspiring to oratorical efforts. We can all remember, however, that the duty did devolve upon us of offering up a certain measure of sweet incense to the governments for the achievements which they had foreshadowed in the speech from the Throne, the adoption of which they have been called upon to move and second. I am very pleased to say that the hon. senator from Toronto and the hon. senator from Edmonton have been very felicitous in the expression of these same terms. They have not overlooked attributing all the blessings which we enjoy, both temporal and spiritual to the present government. They have not been slow in superceding Providence by that providential and paternal government which at the present time administers the affairs of this country, and likewise in attributing to the government instead of to Providence every good and perfect gift of which we have been the recipients. However, as I have said, they have been following precedent, and I am not going to quarrel with them for having done so. I therefore take the opportunity of congratulating these hon. gentlemen on their accession to this body and expressing the hope that they may be long spared to be active and useful members of this Senate.

It has been said on many occasions, and I therefore hesitate to repeat it, that the
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speech from the Throne is not usually characterized by what it contains so much as by what is omitted; but it may be said on this occasion there has been a departure from that state of affairs and we have presented to us a bill of fare which is certainly elaborate in the many subjects embodied in the address and which I have no doubt will be presented to us from time to time during the present session. It may be said that this will be peculiarly a tariff session, although the reference to the tariff in the address appears in a very modest and unostentatious way. The mere mention of it does not throw very much light upon what the measure will contain. The public have a great deal of curiosity as to what the tariff will be, and to what extent the government will go in revising the existing tariff; but I doubt if the curiosity of the public—if we exclude the Liberal party—is so great as the curiosity of the Liberal party itself. That party is on the tip-toe of expectation as to what the tariff will contain. That, however, is still in the mysterious breast of the government. I have no doubt in the course of a few days our curiosity will be relieved by discovering that those gentlemen have been true to their record, of preaching free trade and practising protection. It seldom falls to the lot of a party to preach free trade and practise protection, yet that has been the attitude of the present government since 1896. One's prophetic instinct would not be far astray in predicting that notwithstanding the many professions of the Liberal party against responsibility for maintaining a protective tariff, when the Finance Minister brings down his Bill, it will be found to embody practically all the measures of protection that have been in force since the party of the National policy introduced the tariff Bill of 1879. The Liberal party has been strangely inconsistent, and has shown little candour or honesty in thus masquerading as free traders for the last ten years. The government knows, the manufacturer knows, every intelligent member of the Liberal party knows that the tariff which will be brought down to parliament in the course of the next few days will be as highly protective as any tariff that has ever been in force in Canada, yet, notwithstanding this fact, the Liberal organs, with that strange inconsistency and insincerity which