

lature, and is also the director and editor of "Le Devoir" newspaper published in Montreal. Such are the bald facts of Mr. Bourassa's career. They convey no idea of the man's personality, and it is in his unique personality that much of Mr. Bourassa's potency lies.

What kind of man is he? Picture to yourself a man of forty-two years, in the full vigour of life, of medium height, compact in build, alert and energetic in his movements; of dark complexion, with a short pointed beard, his shapely head crowned by closely-cropped hair sprinkled with gray, and looking upon you from two piercing eyes that reflect a keen and subtle intellect, and you have Henri Bourassa the man. His whole make-up is one of vitality and power. In conversation he is quick and animated, speaking English and French with equal fluency. Frequently in the course of conversation, a smile will light up his countenance, indicating that subtle attribute that may best be designated as charm. For Mr. Bourassa is a charming man, with a great deal of the idealist about him. He is also a man of wide reading and deep study, in fact, there are not many men who are better informed in the various aspects of British life and history than the man whom many are fond of denouncing as anti-British. His deep knowledge of parliamentary and constitutional principles is not only shown in his public discourses, but it is apparent even in the most cursory conversation. Mr. Bourassa is no stranger in the sister provinces, he has been heard at Toronto, he has spoken at Halifax and St. John and at other points in the Maritime Provinces, and he has everywhere met with a most cordial reception.

Striking as is Mr. Bourassa's personality and charming as he is as a conversationalist, it is upon the hustings that his power is supreme. The Nationalist leader is essentially an orator—a great popular tribune. It has been my privilege frequently during the past quarter of a century to be upon the same platform and to listen to the greatest French-Canadian orators of that period, men who rank with the greatest orators that the French-Canadian race has produced—Chapleau, Mercier, Laurier, and last, but certainly not least, Bourassa. Chapleau and Mercier in their prime were men of powerful build, great physical force and magnetic qualities,