

flourished, withered and died, but left in the memory a fragrance that will not soon be forgotten.

Coming to the Address proper, I desire to associate myself with what my honourable friend has so eloquently and fittingly referred to—Canada's part in the war. A great deal more could be said than my honourable friend has said. I am not going to take up the time of the House in expatiating on what Canada's part has been and what our gallant sons have done on the other side of the sea, being a nation that does not boast of deeds done or great sacrifices made in the cause of humanity. We are more perhaps like Great Britain, who has, in the field, on the seas, and financially, borne the brunt of this war without a murmur, without boasting. We in Canada are proud to be able to say that in the hour of trial Canada proved itself worthy of the great British Empire, of which she forms no mean part. We are now satisfied to say that Canada did its duty.

I desire just for a moment to refer to an item that is mentioned in the Address, regarding the Peace Conference. The reference to the Peace Conference, and the fact that the Premier of Canada is present, reminds us that Canada is fortunate in having a representative of such outstanding ability as Sir Robert Borden. Sir Robert's great legal and political knowledge marks him as a great man amongst the greatest statesmen of the world, who are sitting around that conference board. The fact that Sir Robert has been chosen to represent the British Empire at the conference to be held with representatives of Russia, in the hope of arranging peace matters, indicates the high standing that Sir Robert occupies at the present moment overseas, and incidentally is a great compliment to Canada.

Another matter of great importance referred to in the Address is that of the Franchise Act. The Franchise Bill foreshadowed in the Address is one of the important measures that Parliament will be asked to deal with. The Address also foreshadows legislation for effectively enabling women to vote and conferring on them the right to sit in Parliament. I commend the Government for bringing down legislation to enable the women to vote. Their great patriotic efforts and their greater sacrifices during the war have not only earned them the right of the ballot, but have demonstrated beyond any doubt their ability to discharge the sacred duty devolving upon every one who has the right of the franchise, to use it in the best interests of Canada.

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY.

These splendid women, honourable gentlemen, must not be put on a par with the alien enemy women living in this country to-day. It would be a crime for which this Government, or any other Government that committed it, would be held responsible by the men who have fought the battles of this country. These alien enemy women are not entitled to the franchise. They are not qualified to use the franchise if they had it. First, because of their lack of education. They know nothing about British institutions; they know nothing about democratic institutions. The women of Canada have made great sacrifices to help to carry on the war. They have sacrificed not only their time and their money, but their husbands, their brothers, and their sons. Sixty thousand of the flower of Canada's young manhood lie in Flanders to-day. They fought for great principles, about which those alien enemy women know nothing at all, and to put those women on a par with our own splendid women in Canada would be a gratuitous insult to our women, to every man who has returned from the war, and, to the dead who are lying in Flanders, and that insult would not soon be forgotten by those who sacrificed so much.

Another matter, honourable gentlemen, to which I desire to refer, and which is mentioned in the Address, is the very important question of immigration. The Immigration Bill foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne is one of vital importance to this country. I hold that Canada has learned its lesson in respect to immigration, and I trust that those in charge of affairs have realized that the strength of a nation lies not in its numbers, or in its wealth, but rather in the health, the character and the vigour of its people. If this is a fact, looking back over the class of immigrants that came into this country during the last twenty or thirty years, we realize the great mistakes that have been made. We had within our borders during the four years of war hundreds of thousands of people from southern Europe who were not only of very little use to us, but were a standing menace. I trust that in any vigorous immigration policy that is undertaken the people from alien enemy countries will be excluded from Canada for many years to come. Canada ought to bid for and encourage the immigration of the very best class of people, those from the countries of our allies, those who understand what we have been contending and fighting for, not the class of people from southern Europe, people whom we have been fighting against, people who are an absolute hindrance to a great country like ours.