

united party, holding him in such a high measure of respect, esteem, and loyal devotion. If there was one reason more than another that served to endear that man to the people of British Columbia, and that, I think and believe, should have endeared him to the people of this whole country if they had understood the situation as we understood it, it was the spirited, energetic, courageous and patriotic course which he assumed at the conference of Prime Ministers in London last year, when, to use the vernacular, he threw a monkey-wrench into the machinery and prevented the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese treaty. I am one of those who believe that the assertion frequently made at that time or very shortly afterwards, that it was largely due to the action of Canada's representative there that the Disarmament Conference at Washington was called, was an absolutely true statement of fact. As a result of that conference, we know that the Anglo-Japanese Treaty is now a thing of the past, and we have in its stead a Four Nations' Treaty, which we are, I think, all thoroughly convinced will, for a long time to come, ensure safety on our Pacific coast.

I find that I have several other points noted on which I had intended to make some remarks, but I think I shall pass them up. We have been treated to-day to some rather lengthy orations, and I do not want to add mine to that number. I had noted something about revision of terms in connection with the Prairie provinces, but I do not think I shall dwell upon that subject. I have tried to understand as fully as possible, from the remarks which have fallen from the lips of the members of the Progressive party who have spoken, their objection to the position taken by the hon. member for St. John and Albert (Mr. Baxter) yesterday, and I have yet failed to grasp why they should have any objection to permitting a province, which feels it has a grievance, to enter upon a discussion of any matter precedent to any change in the terms in connection with the three western provinces. In British Columbia, we all expect to interject ourselves into that conference or board of arbitration or whatever it may be, if it is held, and to have our views presented there, and, I hope, very forcibly presented. We, in British Columbia, have never believed that we have received exactly just and fair treatment in the distribution of subsidies. We have physical disabilities there which

[Mr. MacKelvie.]

make, for instance, road-building such a tremendous expense as compared with the same sort of construction in the other provinces, and we have other cases which lead us to believe that, if any reconstruction of terms is effected, we should be entitled to present our case and to make a claim for better terms before that deal is consummated.

I also had noted something regarding Soldiers' re-establishment, and I had intended to enlarge in some slight extent upon that. But I shall pass it by, contenting myself with saying only this, that, as time goes by, as one year succeeds another, we find that even the generous intention of the past Government and what was thought to be very ample provision for the needs and necessities of our returned men and their dependents gradually worked itself out in a way which shows that ever continuing and increasing assistance must be given if this country shall, in any way at all, begin to liquidate the tremendous debt which, of course, will never by any material means be liquidated, which we owe to the men who went overseas and fought on our behalf for the preservation of civilization. I hope such generous provision will be made from time to time for men and women of that class that, sooner or later, the last vestige of just complaint may vanish from amongst our returned men or their dependents in this country.

Just one word in conclusion regarding a subject which was introduced on more than one occasion during this debate, and which I have always held very close to my heart. In the early part of my remarks I had occasion to refer to it from one angle, when I had reason, I think, to criticise the language used by the Minister of Justice in an altogether unjustifiable attempt to swing the members of this House and more particularly of his own province behind the idea that, in some unexplained way, they had an enemy in the leader of the Opposition sitting on this side. I, with as strong language as I could bring to bear on the subject, expressed my opinion then. I wish now to view the matter in another way. I was born on one ocean seaboard and I have spent most of my life on another. I was brought up as a child in a county of New Brunswick which contained a large proportion of French-Canadian people, and some of the dearest friends of my boyhood days and some of my closely associated school mates were boys of that race. I grew to hold them in very high esteem, and I have always entertained the same feelings