

the future with confidence. Canada's part in the conflict will go down in history to our credit. Canada's manhood will overcome the present unrest, and not shrink in the discharge of any proper duty.

Mr. ROBERT LORNE RICHARDSON (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, after listening to this debate which has gone on for a considerable number of days, and to the many heart-searching addresses that have been made by many members of the House, who are greatly disturbed about the vote they shall give, I am sure that many of us would envy the complacency of the British politician who made the following declaration:

I was never present at any debate I could avoid, or absent from any division I could get at. I have heard many arguments which convinced my judgment, but never one that influenced my vote. I never voted but once according to my opinion, and that was the worst vote I ever gave. I found that the only way to be quiet in Parliament was always to vote with the ministers and never to take a place.

I am quite sure that many members will appreciate the placid condition of mind of that British statesman.

In addressing myself to the subject under consideration, I find that I am under some little difficulty because we are supposed to limit ourselves to a very brief time. There is a great deal of matter that I should like to have placed before the House, but I shall be obliged to curtail it. I very much regret, therefore, that the House will not be able to listen to some remarks that I wished to make regarding the Winnipeg strike and other matters, as I feel bound to be as brief as possible.

I take the position first that this is a war Government and that the members who were elected to support the Union Government were returned on one special issue. So far as regards the constituency for which I was elected, I heard no other question discussed in the election than that of winning the war, and I have no doubt whatever that the very large majority which I secured was due to that supreme issue. I have listened very patiently and carefully to most of the addresses which have been delivered here on the Budget, and I may say that as a western man—one who has lived in Western Canada for over thirty-seven years, and has participated in the political and public life of that country during most of that time—that I have always been a low-tariff man. My aspirations have always been to have agricultural implements freed from duties, also to have foodstuffs and other necessities of life supplied to the people at the lowest possible cost. I sat

[Mr. Loggie.]

at the feet of the Liberal Gamaliels some thirty-five years ago as a boy, and learned the ideals of free trade. While I recognize that free trade is not perhaps advisable, or possible, at the present stage of our development, I have never changed my views with regard to the fiscal question in this country. Therefore, I very largely share the opinions expressed in this debate by my hon. friend from Red Deer (Mr. Michael Clark), and I particularly endorse those with which he closed his fine deliverance in this House in favour of closer trade relations with the United Kingdom.

I recall with great pleasure when, twenty years ago, the British preference was proposed by the Laurier Government, and I remember the enthusiasm with which it was received. The great poet of England, Rudyard Kipling, immortalized it in those verses beginning:

A nation spoke to a nation,  
A queen sent word to a throne,  
"Daughter am I in my mother's house,  
But mistress in my own."

With the member for Red Deer, I should like to see in the very near future closer trade relations with the British people.

With most of the views expressed by the ex-Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Crerar) I am heartily in accord, as also with most of the views expressed by members from the West who were elected to support this Government but who find themselves unable to support this Budget. I want to say, on behalf of many of those members, that they occupy a very delicate and difficult position. The feeling in the West is almost unanimous, so far as the farmers are concerned, in favour of free agricultural implements and very great reductions on the tariff. In some of the constituencies represented by members who have spoken and who took issue with the tariff, nominations are being held, and it looks to me as if a new party is being organized in the West. Perhaps that may not be inexpedient; indeed, it may bring the relief which a great portion of the West has been looking forward to for many years. I think I express the views of the majority of my friends from the West when I say that an experience of thirty years with the so-called Liberal party has convinced them, as it has me, that there is nothing to hope for from that quarter, and if out of the sentiment that undoubtedly exists in the West in favour of a low tariff and free agricultural implements there should arise a virile party which will implement that feeling, I am satisfied that it will be of