

fruit. The Conservative Government came into power in the fall of 1873, and so quickly was confidence restored in the country that in the spring of 1881, a little over two years afterward, Canada had courage enough to embark upon the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Prosperity had been restored to the country; everybody was working; we were in a position to take up and carry to a successful conclusion within five years a project upon which the same Government had gone out seven or eight years before and which meanwhile had lain dormant. So promptly did Canada recover from the depression which the false ideal of the Liberal Government of 1873 to 1878 had fostered in Canada. Realizing what the Canada of to-day is in contrast to the Canada of fifty years ago, I see no cause to doubt that the Government of to-day can carry out its promise to the people of Canada to set all at work, just as the Government of Sir John Macdonald did fifty years ago. I think I have said sufficient for an occasion like this when I draw this parallel.

I congratulate the Government on having been so prompt to redeem its promise to the electors of Canada to institute action at the earliest possible moment; and I hope that, having started in this way, it will keep right on to the end of the road.

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable members, it is with great pleasure that I join with my honourable friends on the other side in congratulating His Honour the Speaker on his elevation to the seat which he now occupies. I know that his long parliamentary experience will avail him much, and I assure him, speaking for this side of the House, that we will do all in our power to make his tenure of office as pleasant as possible.

I desire to congratulate also the two members of this Chamber to whom we have just listened, the one proposing and the other seconding the motion which is now before us. The honourable gentleman from St. Boniface (Hon. Mr. B nard) we have not heard as often as we should like. He represents an important element in Canada. We are all thinking of the fortunes of the West. We know that he left the East to become a pioneer in Manitoba, and we have heard with pleasure of his success. We should like him oftener to give us the benefit of his experience since he has been in Manitoba. He has spoken of the farming community, which he represents in this Chamber. We are all aware that farming is perhaps the

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most important industry in Canada. We feel somewhat apprehensive when we hear that it is not doing well, and we join with him in hoping for better days for the farmers of the West, for we know the situation has not been all that it should be.

I heard with pleasure my honourable friend from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Taylor). When he rises in his place I am always prepared to hear some pointed arguments which perhaps may be hard to answer. This time he has not been as—

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Aggressive.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: No, I will not use that word. He has not been as stern. He always speaks with conviction, and I admire his sincerity.

The honourable gentleman from St. Boniface (Hon. Mr. B nard) has said that he was the first French-speaking Canadian to move the Address in reply in this Chamber. I am under the impression that he is in error in this, but I am happy to see him proposing this motion to-day.

The honourable gentleman from New Westminster has told us that last spring there were 250,000,000 bushels of grain still in our elevators, but that now, under the new Government, we have the promise of better conditions. I should like my honourable friend to read the short Speech from the Throne. I think he will have some difficulty in finding any allusion whatsoever to the solution of that problem. There is the question of unemployment, but I have yet to hear of any measure to be brought before this Chamber or the other one which will help to sell whatever grain remains in the elevators of the West or at the head of the lakes. We all are agreed upon the necessity of finding markets, and although the Government which I represented in this Chamber did not succeed in opening new markets, it hoped to be able to do so if it sent a delegation to the coming Imperial Conference. The Dunning Budget was framed with that object in view. It will now be for the present Government to secure—perhaps through means which will be disclosed to us at this short session—the British market. It is not an easy thing to do. The late Government adopted a policy; the present Government may formulate a different one, of the results of which we shall be better able to judge at the next session of Parliament. I sincerely hope that the Government's delegation will succeed in bringing about a larger purchase of our grain in the British market.