

gives no revenue to the country. This was well illustrated the other day in an item that I read from Windsor or Sarnia. The city being very close to Detroit, the people went across the border to get a good many of their supplies. Due to the fact that fifteen or sixteen per cent has been deducted from the value of our dollar by exchange and this amount being added to the existing thirty-five per cent of protection on a great many things that come into this country, there was a practically prohibitive tariff and it cut down the customs house receipts at that port by two-thirds of what they had been before. There was only one-third the quantity of goods being imported. This shows conclusively that a high enough tariff excludes goods altogether and gives no revenue; whereas, with a moderate tariff you would receive a certain amount of revenue as well as afford a certain amount of protection. The third principle is that your tariff on luxuries may be as high as you wish but your tariff on the necessaries of life should be as low as possible.

There is only one other subject that I wish to touch upon, very briefly, and that is the question of Canada's status in the League of Nations. Recently the hon. the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Rowell) and the hon. the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Meighen) have been making a number of speeches in the country that I think ought to appeal to Canadians. Canada's magnificent war record, the fact that she entered the lists among the very first to fight Prussianism and the fact that she gave more lives in the cause of freedom than did the United States, has not prevented some senators of the United States from suggesting that Canada should take second place to a number of unimportant countries, more particularly some Central American and South American republics. Here is the list of a few of the countries to which Canada is asked to take second place: Brazil, Bolivia, Cuba, Haiti, Liberia, Portugal, Peru, Denmark and the Kingdom of Siam. These are only a few that I might mention but they are much less important countries than Canada, they made very much less sacrifice than Canada, and in fact many of them made no sacrifice in the war whatever. I believe that the Canadian people are not in any mood to give up any of the attributes of nationhood which they won with the lifeblood of their sons.

The right hon. the Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden) has made the statement that in the near future there will be an Imperial Conference, and the Acting Prime

[Mr. Manion.]

Minister (Sir George Foster) stated the other day that it might be held in Canada; at which Conference the status of the self-governing dominions will be decided. Canada will have representatives at that Conference. There are two axioms which appeal to me as a native-born Canadian and which I think should be remembered by those representatives. One of those axioms is that under no circumstances must they agree to any arrangement which will lessen the autonomy, or self-governing powers, of this country. The second is that no great change in the constitutional relations of this country in connection with the other nations of the Empire or of the world shall be made without proper consultation with the Parliament of Canada and perhaps with the whole people of Canada.

For, Sir, Canadians are proud of the high position won by the magnificent services and immense sacrifices of their men at the front; they are jealous of that position which they must guard if they are to fulfil their destiny of building up on the northern half of this continent a great Canadian nation.

Mr. PIUS MICHAUD (Restigouche and Madawaska): Mr. Speaker, I have followed with great interest the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the Throne, and it is my privilege to congratulate both the mover (Mr. Cronyn) and the seconder (Mr. McGregor) on the part which they have taken in it. The hon. mover has given this House much good advice but I am afraid his efforts to convince the supporters of the Government of his good intentions will have little effect. The hon. member advises us "not to fall into the mortal error of mistaking feeling for thought or of substituting mere passion for argument."

Into this new and beautiful building we members of the House of Commons should come with new ideas and never should we express views the adoption of which would not contribute to the welfare of the Canadian people. Since Confederation this Dominion of ours for some reason unknown to me; has been slow in its progress, except for a certain period. We have had great statesmen, we have great resources; our lands, our forests, our mines and our fisheries are equal to any in the whole world. We have developed to a certain extent many of our natural resources, we have built railways, and developed our harbours; our transportation facilities are equal to the demand to handle in a comparatively satisfactory manner the products of the country. What is wrong? The policy of the present Government? We are asking