

inces. They wish to see their mining resources actively developed by the opening of new routes to the north. The laying out of a line between Lake St. John and Chibougamau has been given up. Railways are needed in Gaspé, Rimouski and certain districts of Montreal. To compensate for the railways that have been taken away from them for economic reasons, why would not the Government help them by promoting their efforts in that direction? We too, in our province, fear the effects of human erosion. And it is not desirable that part of our population should be lost through emigration. Nobody need have any fear of these feelings; it is a natural and brave way to assert one's patriotism.

No, Quebec has not and cannot have the intention of seceding from the other provinces. On the contrary, it desires to participate more actively in public affairs when it requests a fair share of the administration for its people. The province of Quebec hopes for stronger, and, if possible, closer bonds, in order that the Canadians, whatever their origin, may direct their efforts toward an ever greater and more prosperous Canada.

I have the honour to second the motion which has just been presented.

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN: Honourable members, it is as no mere effort demanded by the formalities of the hour that I congratulate the mover of the motion which we are now considering (Hon. Mr. Hugessen). Everyone within range of his voice will recognize that the new senator possesses a parliamentary style very welcome in this Chamber, or indeed in any chamber, and has clearly made up his mind to be a working member of the working section of the Parliament of Canada.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I congratulate him warmly on the way in which he has discharged his duties. He will not misunderstand me if I add to the other virtues of his speech which I have mentioned that of brevity, only commenting that this virtue, unfortunately, is more generally practised in the Parliament of the country where he spent his childhood than in that whose portals he now has entered.

It is unnecessary to congratulate the honourable senator from Kennebec (Hon. Mr. Parent), who seconded the motion. He is by no means a young man in public life. He is a war-scarred veteran. Perhaps he has not received as many scars as, for the good of the nation, he should have received; but that is

due purely to his political skill. He needs no congratulations. He is a gladiator in his own right.

While I am on my feet I feel like expressing pleasure at late appointments to this House, inclusive of the mover of this motion. I may be forgiven, possibly, if, contrary to the general practice, I specify the name of him who will soon join us from the Pacific coast. I believe the appointment of Mr. Farris, now Senator Farris, is a highly creditable one to the Government which made it, and that he will be an acquisition to the Senate of our country, being a man of ability, energy and determination to be useful.

It now becomes me to make some comments. They will not be long, because, in deference to the authority quoted by the first speaker as to the function of the Senate, to which authority I humbly and modestly submit, we are not primarily a debating assembly. But we have not yet reached the point where our work is before us; our main labours are not yet laid out; so we perhaps can usefully call attention to some matters which are at this time doubtless in the minds of the great mass of our people.

The Speech from the Throne touches on subjects of general concern. I mention first a reference to the Government's unremitting efforts to extend the trade of Canada, evidenced and no doubt established by the fact that Ministers of the Crown have visited Great Britain and other countries to participate personally in the negotiation of trade agreements. That Ministers of the Crown have visited Great Britain and other countries we are all aware. In fact the excursion this last summer reached, I think, unprecedented dimensions: we had but a relic of the Government left. No fewer than nine Ministers enjoyed the Atlantic voyage and peregrinations through Europe, and we are told they brought back an amended trade treaty with Great Britain. Another Minister is now on his way to New Zealand and Australia. That some of this is necessary I do not doubt; certainly, in less degree, usually very much less, it always takes place. But I cannot join with that great independent journal of the city of Toronto which points to the excursions of Cabinet Ministers over the world as an evidence of that devotion to duty and that consecration to hard toil which so befits a government.

The Speech then goes on to refer to the work of our National Employment Commission. The honourable senator who moved the adoption of the Address (Hon. Mr. Hugessen) complimented this Commission on its achieve-