

Truly, the Conservative program, evolved in Winnipeg, offers no serious guarantees that the imperialists and Orangemen have ceased to have the upper hand in the Conservative party.

The true Canadian policy, the one that looks to the future, is in the hands of the Liberal party. The Conservative party cannot adopt any other without drifting away from the expressed will and wish of the nation.

To-day like yesterday, the Liberal idea is at the basis of all reforms which benefit the people. The Liberals take pride in this beautiful tradition. Loyal to the crown, yes, indeed, they are, but they are first Canadian citizens, jealous of their freedom and autonomy.

The Conservatives, with or without the Orangemen, will be forced to rally to this policy or resign themselves to wallow in their helplessness and unpopularity.

The fact that the Conservatives cannot adopt a suitable program for Canada without incorporating the main features of the Liberal program, is a homage to that program and at the same time a lesson to the Conservatives, who have set aside the best traditions of their party and have too often forgotten that Canada is invincibly and irresistibly forging ahead towards her great national destinies.

Mr. A. E. ROSS (Kingston): Mr. Speaker, in continuing the debate on the budget I think it can be safely stated that it is one of the duties of a government to have an exact knowledge of the natural resources of the country. For this purpose the government is divided into departments, each department having a head, in order that a special study of some particular branch of the question may be carried on. It is equally a duty of the government to know the people of the country, to learn their racial characteristics, their aptitude for special work, their tendencies and their aspirations in order to work these people into the development of the natural resources in such a way as to apply their special characteristics to the task. If one were to study this budget to ascertain the policy followed by the government in its preparation, one could find nothing of this kind at all. The government, through a knowledge of the natural resources and a knowledge of the people, should be able to formulate a national policy in the national interest, but if this budget is studied nothing of that nature will be found. The government should be able also to show an adherence to whatever policy may be formed, but a study of the last few budgets will show that this King government

[Mr. Prevost.]

adheres to no policy. A party which is pleased one year will be displeased the next year, and so you have nothing but a characteristic shuffling of policies to keep the party in power instead of a national policy in the best interests of the country.

We can go even further. We find that this government ascribes a great deal to Providence; they are still trusting in Providence. If a man wants a job he has to trust in Providence rather than in this government. In the city of Ottawa, as in many other cities, the unemployed are still trusting to Providence and the occasional snow storm to give them a job if even only for a few hours.

Now I would like to speak for a moment with regard to how this budget affects or does not affect my own constituency. Others have spoken along technical lines and have taken up the different features of this budget; we had a splendid address this afternoon showing its effect on Nova Scotia, and now I would like to deal with certain matters connected with that section of the country from which I come. The first question with which I will deal is that of the feldspar industry. In the county of Frontenac is found the finest type of feldspar in the world, and quantities of this ore are also found in different parts of Ontario and the eastern United States. It is interesting to note the facts with regard to this ore and to see how this government is proceeding to develop that natural resource. Feldspar is employed in a great many industries; it is used in the ceramic industries, in the manufacture of porcelain and tiles as well as the making of certain glasses; thirty-one mills are located in the United States for the grinding of this ore. The rough ore is admitted free, while a 30 per cent duty is placed against ground ore in the United States. With the best ore it is possible to get, Canada has only two mills, and that deplorable fact can only be explained by the indifference of this government. One of these mills is located in Kingston, while the other is in Toronto; these are able to take care of the requirements of this country at present, but if they were given the same treatment by this government as is received by this industry in the United States, the situation would be greatly improved. If instead of the 30 per cent duty on ground ore we had even a 15 per cent duty, these mills would double their capacity and double the number of their employees. This matter was brought before the tariff advisory board, but received no consideration whatever. I believe the government should take it into consideration and give these two mills at least one-half the protection received by the United States mills.