

sweethearts of our fighting men are more than worthy to take their places by the side of their mates, their sons, and their brothers in accepting the gratitude of the civilized world. Under these circumstances the proposal in the Speech from the Throne that women are shortly to be admitted as members of parliament can hardly be open to criticism.

As a medical man the proposal to establish a federal department of public health appeals to me, and has appeared for many years something to be desired. Material prosperity either of a man or of a nation is of little avail if the health be not guarded. All the arguments appear to me to be favourable to this project. As a Canadian, the idea that all future immigration be on a selective basis also seems greatly to be desired. In the past the methods of attracting immigrants to our shores have been all too loose, and so to-day many undesirables are numbered among Canadian citizens. It appears to me that in the future we should especially encourage to our country immigrants from the British Isles and from the United States, that great republic to the south of us whose people have studied the same history as we, speak the same mother tongue as the majority of us, and who respect the same free and democratic institutions as Canadians do.

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude my remarks I wish to congratulate the Government upon a good deal of constructive legislation which has been put into force, such as the increased post discharge pay for the soldiers, the free transportation given to the soldiers' wives and dependents home to Canada, upon the fact that constructive plans are to be put into execution in needed public expenditures; this, of course, depending upon those works being justly and fairly distributed for the benefit of Canada. The congratulations of the whole country are due to the Minister of Finance because of the great response given by the people of the country in reply to his appeals for loans.

The three paramount duties devolving upon the people of Canada at the present moment, in addition to paying homage to our heroes who lie out there under little wooden crosses in France and Flanders, are, first, to repatriate in a proper manner the heroes who are living. History has told us that in past wars heroes and their heroic deeds are soon forgotten. Canada must belie history. Second, to see that governments, corporations, and individuals co-

operate in putting Canada back to a peace footing,—a peace footing from an industrial and labour standpoint, and from a cost-of-living standpoint. And, third, that we foster in this country a united Canadian national spirit. Probably, Mr. Speaker, the greatest of these three is the last, for to-day, owing to the diverse nationalities and religions of our people, and owing to the great breadth and extent of our country, antagonisms of race and creed, diversity of views of east and west, are combining against national progress. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Representing as I do a constituency midway between the east and west, let me extend a hand to each. The essence of democracy is compromise for the good of the whole, for the greatest good to the greatest number. Let all endeavour to do away with race and creed antagonisms; let the demands of the west be tempered by the rights of the east, and let the extremists of the east remember that the west deserves justice; let labour and capital bear in mind that they are interdependent, not antagonistic, and let them rather cooperate than do battle; and, finally, let us see that our returning heroes are given justice in every way, are given their reward for the high courage, tenacity, and nobility of character which they have displayed on the battlefield. But at the same time let the returning soldier remember that the vast majority of those who did not go to the front performed worthy and needed services here at home, and not having abdicated their rights as Canadian citizens, also have some claims upon the country.

Sir, if these precepts are acknowledged and practised we will without doubt in the years to come build up on the northern half of this continent a great Canadian nation.

If in this country we sow the seeds of disunion, dissension, and intolerance, we will reap defeat; but if, on the other hand, we sow the seeds of unity, confidence, and enlightenment, we shall garner the fruits of a happy, prosperous, and united nation. Only by following the nobler of these two courses, Sir, can we justify the acts of those great Canadians of fifty years ago, the Fathers of Confederation. I have the honour, Mr. Speaker, to support the motion for the Address.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

After Recess.

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. D. D. McKENZIE (North Cape Breton): Mr. Speaker, this being my first