

*The Address—Mr. Villeneuve*

thought, has kept the confidence of the Canadian people. We have there a proof that all Canadians have faith in their country, a faith which, I sincerely hope, will some day officially take a concrete form in a distinctive and unifying emblem as well as in a single truly Canadian anthem.

The year 1953 was marked by magnificent festivities on the occasion of the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, our queen, to whom we wish a peaceful and fruitful reign, like that enjoyed by her illustrious ancestor Queen Victoria. In my opinion, it is a great honour for all women of the commonwealth to have a woman on the throne; the very fact that a woman can accede to the throne shows the importance we give to women in our system of constitutional and democratic monarchy.

I also wish to offer my congratulations to the new Speaker and to the new Deputy Speaker of this house. Being men recognized for their tact, I am sure that, with the help of their parliamentary experience, they will preserve in this house the tradition of gentlemanliness that has never faltered since the early days of confederation.

Among the hon. members of the cabinet we are proud to note the presence of two new faces: the Secretary of State (Mr. Pickersgill) and the Minister of Resources and Development (Mr. Lesage). The former sits in this house for the first time, as a representative of our new sister province, Newfoundland, and as a cabinet member. A figure both so new and so well known has seldom been seen in active politics. His extensive knowledge of administrative and constitutional matters has commanded from the very first the attention of the members of the cabinet and of the country as a whole. The latter has already spent two terms in this house as member for Montmagny-L'Islet. Hard-working, clearminded, matchless as a mixer; these are some of the qualities which, together with competence and a gift for adapting himself to circumstances, have won him the honour of being the youngest member of the cabinet. No doubt that with so many personal gifts, he will be able to discharge very well his office of Minister of Resources and Development in a country which is making great strides.

On September 9 and October 15 of this year there was no lack of good news. It was on those dates that we learned also of the appointment of parliamentary assistants to various cabinet members. It is fitting that we should congratulate these newly appointed gentlemen on having drawn upon themselves the attention of these ministers who have thus given recognition to their services and to their skill in the handling of public affairs. A good

[Mr. Villeneuve.]

administrator is said to show sound judgment in choosing his assistants and I am convinced that in thus designating their parliamentary assistants, both new and old, the hon. members of the cabinet have, indeed, chosen those who were best fitted to help them.

Every hon. member will be sorry that the ex-minister of public works is no longer with us since his appointment as a justice of the Exchequer Court. The Hon. Alphonse Fournier, both as a minister and as leader of the house, had gained the esteem of each and every one of us.

(Text):

With the death of Mr. Gordon Graydon, Progressive Conservative member for Peel since 1935, the parliament of Canada has suffered a grievous loss. Always successful in being elected in his own riding, he served as his party's house leader, and for a few years during the last war as leader of the opposition. As we were reminded yesterday, Mr. Graydon took a particular interest in foreign affairs and was a member of the Canadian delegation at the San Francisco conference where the charter of the United Nations was drafted.

(Translation):

On the occasion of the visit paid by the President of the United States, Mr. Dwight Eisenhower, to the capital of Canada, there is unanimous rejoicing in the fact that friendly relations bind our two countries, and everyone hopes that peace, concord and understanding—which are factors of security and stability—will continue to prevail in America. We also hope that this economic co-operation, which is a factor of plenty for our two countries, will continue to prevail between Canada and the United States. To the President of the United States, we extend our most cordial welcome.

It was only logical that after having paid a visit to every part of this country, the Prime Minister should have thought it proper to make his pilgrimage around the world. The numerous invitations lately extended to the Prime Minister by foreign countries, are tangible evidence of the growing importance of the part played by Canada in world affairs.

Having studied closely the problems which beset Asiatic and European countries, the right hon. Prime Minister will have the opportunity of looking into them on the spot. We commend him for having answered the wishes of the Canadian people, by thus deciding to fly far away from our shores in order to spread abroad what good news we have to offer. Our country, on which Divine Providence has bestowed its kindness, is morally