

men representing us at the United Nations. Canada has done her part well in the past, and we can depend upon it that this country will acquit herself equally well in the future.

After reading the Speech from the Throne and reviewing the history of this government under the able leadership of the present Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Louis Stephen St. Laurent, I feel that Canadians can look ahead with high confidence. Although we may not be able to find a perfect solution to all our problems, we can and will find a workable one.

Hon. Jean Marie Dessureault (Translation): Honourable senators, I take great pleasure in seconding the motion, so ably presented by the Senator from Bruce (Hon. Mr. Stambaugh).

I feel deeply the great honour bestowed upon me of seconding the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne for which I thank the leader of this house most cordially. I am grateful to the leader of the government for the token of esteem which he has offered to me as well as to the county of Quebec East, which is proud of having numbered among its representatives the only two French-Canadian prime ministers, both of whom are among the most illustrious. This tribute is also meant for the city of Quebec, which I have the honour of representing in this chamber.

I would like to share in the tribute paid by the leader of the government, the leader of the opposition and by those of my colleagues who spoke before me, to the memory of Honourable Senator Ballantyne, who passed away during the adjournment since last session, and I wish to extend to the members of his family my deepest condolences.

As a representative in the Senate of the province of Quebec, I also wish to express my deep sympathy to the population of Three Rivers, especially to the families of the victims of the tragedy that happened yesterday, when the Duplessis bridge crumbled, plunging several families into mourning.

I also take pleasure in mentioning the recent appointment of three new senators from Newfoundland, and in congratulating them and welcoming the one of the three who is already among us (Hon. Mr. Pratt).

It seems fitting to point out that today, the 1st of February, is the 69th birthday of our most esteemed and distinguished Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent. I think I am expressing the feelings of every member of this house when I wish him a happy birthday and voice the hope that Providence may long keep him as

active and as energetic as he is today, so that he may continue to lead the destinies of our country.

Without unduly praising the government and its leader, I believe that we have reason to be pleased and to thank Providence for having given us, to lead the destinies of our country in these difficult and troubled times, such a worthy and able prime minister.

Mr. St. Laurent is regarded by his French-speaking and English-speaking fellow-citizens, not only as an ordinary politician, but as a great statesman, who is a credit to them in the national and international fields. His advice as chief of state is of inestimable value. I believe my colleagues share these feelings, and I am convinced that they reflect the views of the whole country. The great European newspapers have recognized our Prime Minister as an authority, and they have been unanimous in praising the various statements which he made during his recent stay in Europe. As usual, Mr. St. Laurent showed during the London and Paris conferences, that he possessed exceptional qualities of judgment and a deep knowledge of present-day problems. His services as mediator between the different members of the Commonwealth seem to have been highly appreciated. Among other comments, the *Figaro* of Paris had this to say on January 13 last:

His influence as chairman of the Canadian delegation to the San Francisco conference, and later to the first and second sessions of the general assembly of the United Nations, helped to give his country a foremost place among the great powers. Mr. St. Laurent is not only "an eminent jurist and a highly esteemed politician," as the *Times* recently called him, he is a typical honest man in the fullest sense of the word.

In the light of such praise, honourable senators will agree, I believe, that we may well be proud of his able leadership.

Anyone who followed his work during the recent conference of the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth, in London, and who accompanied him in thought to Paris, would be gratified at his wisdom and his leadership. For instance, we have noticed that other countries have also benefited from his sound counsel. Our Prime Minister has been identified with the wise steps taken by India in attempting to reach a reasonable settlement of the difficulties which are keeping the whole world in a state of anguish.

Canada is one of the first signatories of the Atlantic Pact to co-operate with the United States in the United Nations action in Korea.

The government has followed a sound and far-sighted policy, in keeping with the various racial elements of our population.