

tion for a country is greater than it is in Canada. This is something that should not be overlooked.

I remember how my blood boiled—I mean just that, and I am sure there were other members of this House of Commons who felt the same way—when during the spy investigations I heard that there were people who called themselves Canadian citizens but who said that they had a deeper and more abiding loyalty to another government and another country. It was a shocking thing to me to hear that. It aroused within me something which I hope will not soon be aroused again. But I think it indicates that in no part of this country is there a monopoly of loyalty to Canada. This being so, I urge upon hon. members that we citizens, no matter what their racial origin may be—how unnecessary it is in these days to emphasize that!—should consider these things.

Our children—and my children; perhaps I know them best, although sometimes public men do not seem to get to know their children too well—are proud, not merely of the country their forefathers came from, but of the country in which they live. They are proud of the country in which they are to make their living and in which they are to have the opportunity of fashioning a successful future.

We are all going down the highway of nationhood. We are walking arm in arm no matter who may be beside us. We are walking arm in arm down that highway as one great Canadian family. I think there are members of this house, no matter on which side they sit, who will readily agree that some of us have done our level best to bring about unity so far as Canadian international relations are concerned. I am one of those who believe that.

When we attempt to delve into questions of deep sentiment, and when feelings are easily injured, I do not think it is out of place to appeal to my hon. friend and to tolerant people on all sides of the house and say that I think at this stage we ought to try to find a way by which we can meet the wishes of all, rather than to follow an oblique or indirect method that may offend the sensibilities of some of our citizens.

Before I sit down I want to say that I do not apologize for speaking this afternoon from my heart rather than from notes or a prepared text. There is one point, however, that perhaps I should make clear. Suppose you put aside any arguments that I have made—and they are not arguments in the usual sense of the word; they are pleas to the hon. member and to others who I hope will view the matter the way that I do. There

National Anthem

is one point I want to bring to the attention of the house and of the hon. member who has moved the resolution; it may be that he has overlooked it. In a day or so we shall be uniting with another dominion. Newfoundland is joining our confederation. Newfoundland may be faced with some such problem as this. I am inclined to believe that Newfoundland has a national anthem. In dealing with a question such as this we ought to proceed with extreme care, at this stage of our national life, when we are on the threshold of union with a great and important land, which as our tenth province, will have a keen and vital interest in the matter now under discussion.

I suggest that the matter should be deferred until after Newfoundland has entered confederation. I suggest that we defer consideration of the problems which she faces and which we face in this regard. Then we can all tackle it with a feeling of national unity. As the days go by we shall reach common ground, no matter from what part of Canada we come, and we shall be proud of Canada as a great nation and proud of each other as well.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

Ottawa, March 30, 1949

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Right Hon. Thibaudeau Rinfret, Chief Justice of Canada, acting as deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber on Wednesday, the 30th March, at 5.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving the royal assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,

sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. Delaute

Assistant Secretary to the Governor General

NATIONAL ANTHEM

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF "O CANADA" IN BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH VERSIONS

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Cote (Matapedia-Matane):

That, in the opinion of this house, the anthem "O Canada," in both the English and the French versions, should be the national anthem of this country.

Mr. M. J. Coldwell (Rosetown-Biggarr): Mr. Speaker, in rising to discuss the resolution, I want to join with the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) in congratulating the hon. member who moved the resolution. I also want to say that I think it is fitting that on occasion the house should consider a matter of this description which affects Canada in its growing sense of nationhood. There are two