

Note should also be taken, in the economic field, of the announcement that there will be established a section within the administrative machinery of government to provide liaison between the Government and small businesses, in order to provide them with justified assistance.

All these important plans of development and assistance have awakened throughout the country the hope that excessive unemployment will gradually diminish and stop and that the signs of depression will disappear. But we must, I believe, give credit to the Government for having at this time strongly recommended in the Speech from the Throne, to all classes of the population, to be mindful of the danger of inflation and of the need and even the duty to restrict any demands or plans which might tend to cause a rise in prices and production costs.

It has been suggested, and rightly so, that our estimated expenditure in this field is enormous and even reaches a new high. Nevertheless, the most imperative duty of governments is to watch over the physical and moral conservation of its human capital. To govern is to foresee. A great Christian philosopher has claimed that, in order to maintain his moral values, man must enjoy an honest sufficiency. We must not allow poverty to take root among our good people and to cause them to lose the intellectual and moral values which constitute our greatest asset.

During boom periods the people favoured by birth and fortune, endowed with intelligence, boldness, knowledge and even with luck, are laden with success and material wealth. Consequently, when an economic crisis arises, it is their duty to cut down on comforts and their legitimate desires, and to put up with the taxes necessary to give back to the suffering masses of society a part of what they have received from them. In return for the boom of prosperity we must, when necessary, cope with deficits in our economy. Honourable senators, I trust that from the bottom of our hearts we all wish to alleviate the present unfortunate condition which is the lot of too great a number of workers, and above all to see that it does not get worse and does not last too long.

I would like to say but one word about the tense international situation. We all rejoice that in the Speech from the Throne the Government did not close the door on serious discussions with great or small nations, at the summit or at lower levels, in order to seek means to maintain peace throughout the world. We do appreciate even more the fact that our Government does not intend to declare war against

foreign countries, without very serious reasons. The economic and social legislation program already mentioned is a guarantee in this respect. It is useless to wage war outside the country if our own house is not in order: *Parvi enim sunt foris arma, nisi consilium domi.*

But the danger of a world war is ever present. The whole world is divided into two rival camps of imponderable strength; they are distrustful and sometimes even suspicious of each other! It is possible nevertheless that both sides are quite sincere. But until we are better informed, we must be ever on the alert. That is why the Speech from the Throne, with the utmost moderation, in spirit as well as in word, reflects the wish expressed by the people of so many nations, that the tremendous scientific developments be used to promote the welfare of mankind rather than warfare and war implements. And of course, it also expresses the need of maintaining suitable armed forces to prevent and deter all nations from any possible aggression. We must thank the Government for its sense of measure in dealing with so delicate a matter.

Actually, the danger of war is ever present. Indeed, there always have been unjust conflicts, dishonest and barbaric ventures. But also, there have been honest and human statesmen who held sincere but divergent opinions about the necessity of some grave conflicts, which each belligerent believed justified and to be defensive wars. Let us ask God to give to all nations the necessary wisdom so that we shall not witness in this atomic age the incredible cataclysms which could destroy the whole world created by Providence for our happiness.

Honourable senators, in my closing remarks, I wish to point out, with an admiration that I beg you to forgive, a noteworthy characteristic of the head of the present Government, the Right Honourable John G. Diefenbaker. It has been said about him, and we who sit to the right of the Speaker—and especially those of us who come from the province of Quebec hold this view—that the Right Honourable Prime Minister has never made anywhere in Canada, during his political campaigns, whether he was in opposition or in power, a speech that he could not have repeated in any other province. Nowhere has he appealed to prejudice that would have been condemned elsewhere. He did not believe he should speak to the French and Catholic population of Quebec or of any other part of the country in different terms, as far as political and social principles were concerned, from those which he used when addressing Canadians of different religions and cultures, or even new Canadians. For that we want