

party in Canada accomplished many fine things. Mr. King himself established a unique record by occupying the position of Prime Minister of his country longer than any other Prime Minister in the British Empire. Mr. King was a good man in every way; he was a man of peace; he possessed exceptionally high ideals, and devoted his life to trying to promote the best interests of Canada. Not long ago he found it necessary to retire from active participation in the struggle to maintain the freedom, liberty and welfare of Canadian citizens. We all owe him a debt of gratitude, and in his retirement we can certainly assure him that the job which he undertook to do so many years ago was done exceptionally well.

Honourable senators will recall that when Mr. King announced his intention of retiring there was for some time great speculation as to who would take his place. Then that fine, cultured, Christian gentleman, the Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent offered his services to his country. I am sure that every one of us who has any knowledge of these matters realizes that this step meant a tremendous personal sacrifice to Mr. St. Laurent. He was received with confidence by our people and took his place as the first citizen of Canada, ready to carry on where his predecessor had left off. And what a remarkably fine job he is doing as our Prime Minister! He is demonstrating that he is an excellent administrator; and our people can rest assured that under his leadership the government will do its utmost to give sound, sensible business administration.

This chamber for many years enjoyed the leadership of the late Right Honourable Senator Dandurand, a gentleman who was always honest and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. But time marches on, and he was suddenly called to his reward.

His place was taken by our good friend and colleague, the honourable senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson), another thorough gentleman and one who has devoted much of his life to the service of his country, both in public affairs and in the armed forces. His ability, kindness and courtesy have won for him the confidence and respect of honourable senators as well as that of the Prime Minister and his cabinet, and of Canadians generally.

In the leader of the opposition in this chamber (Hon. Mr. Haig), we have another kind, friendly and honest gentleman, one who has devoted many years of his life to the service of his country, and is still making a worthwhile contribution in his present position.

What I have said about the leader of the opposition in this chamber may be said about the leaders of the opposition in another place. So, I repeat, that as Canadians we should be more than grateful for the leadership we have been given. Our leaders have set an example for those in other countries to follow, and I am quite sure that had this example been followed the sacrifices that have been made would not have been required, and today we would be living in a world of peace and good will.

Honourable senators, except for the odd black spot, of which I am sure honourable senators are aware, what I have said about our leaders may also be said about the membership in both houses of parliament. I particularly wish my words of commendation to apply to the lady members in this chamber.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Golding: Honourable senators, in trying to assist in the conduct of the business of this nation we can never hope to be entirely free from disturbing and perplexing problems, and we now find ourselves confronted with the serious problem of trying to establish suitable markets for the products of our basic industries. Owing to our exchange situation and the present disturbed conditions of world trade, we now find that the markets we tried so hard to cultivate are not as secure as we expected they would be. So we must be patient and endeavour to make contacts in other markets and find new outlets for our products. I am optimistic enough to believe that these outlets will be found. Scientists are repeatedly telling us that because the population of the world is increasing so rapidly and the productivity of the soil is deteriorating so much the people of the world may be facing a condition of starvation in the not too distant future. It is a fact that millions of people are already facing starvation; so I sincerely hope that some way or other will be found to get our splendid food products to these suffering people.

In any event, it is especially important that markets be found for our products, particularly our farm products. Our farmers today are equipped to produce tremendous quantities of fine quality foods, and as an indication of how they have been trying to put themselves in this position I need only point out that during the last three years they spent on machinery and equipment some \$504 million, whereas only about \$450 million was spent for the same purpose in the preceding nine years.

It is essential to our whole economy, I submit, that agricultural products be marketed