

thinking not of the present generation, but of the future generations. I am thinking of the youngsters who will come along and who will look on that flag flying at the masthead at their schools. They will salute it and believe in it. I say to this house that in my humble judgment it will prove one of the greatest unifying forces we can have in this country.

For that reason, honourable senators, I intend to vote against the amendment and support the resolution of the honourable Leader of the Government.

Hon. David Walker: Honourable senators, at the outset may I congratulate the honourable Senator Crerar, who has just spoken? When one looks at him and thinks back over 40 years when he was a cabinet minister and one of Her Majesty's Privy Councillors, one can only marvel while he speaks. Even though we do not agree with what he said, we admire the man and the manner in which he said it.

May I say, too, how well the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Connolly, Ottawa West), whom we all admire for his personal qualities and the way in which he has led this house, placed the position of the Government. He did it in a very fair way.

Honourable senators will excuse me, I am sure, if I salute today the honourable Senator O'Leary (Carleton) for his eloquence. I respectfully suggest that there is no one in this house who outmatches him in eloquence, and his eloquence is matched with good common sense and an abiding and passionate love of Canada.

I rise today more in sorrow than in anger at the axe-wielding incident of closure that occurred in the other place last night. I am sorry to think that it could have taken place, and that the new flag should have its birth and inception under such circumstances.

I am not speaking today as a member of this side of the house to conduct a filibuster, because we have no intention of doing that. We do, however, reserve the right to express, briefly but nevertheless sincerely, our opinions on this whole matter.

May I invoke your support, before it is too late, for the amendment of the honourable Senator O'Leary (Carleton), and to let this matter be discussed, not for the purpose of adopting the Red Ensign but to have on our flag, even though it is the proposed emblem, tucked away perhaps in the middle of the maple leaf—the symbols of the fleur-de-lis and the Union Jack. Somewhere, some place, they should be shown on this flag.

Much is to be said for the habit of children saluting the flag. They are not saluting a piece of bunting; they are saluting a symbol—a symbol of the traditions and the heritage of their own country, a symbol of nationhood. The Red Ensign, because it is the Red Ensign

that we have at the present time, has in it the two symbols, the Union Jack and the fleur-de-lis. It conjures up for all of us, I think, our traditions, our history, the heroic sacrifices of our dead, our free institutions, our Parliament, our courts, and all of our freedoms, but above all it conjures up in the mind of every one of us the standard of high integrity and the standard of ethics that we as public men and public servants owe to Canada.

Might I respectfully suggest that if some of the participants who are now being investigated by a judicial inquiry had had before them in their offices the Union Jack or the Red Ensign, including the fleur-de-lis, or if they had had above their beds something to remind them of the high standards that the people of Canada look to them to discharge—had they paid more attention to these symbols and to the significance of them, honourable senators, then we could rest assured—

Some Hon. Senators: Order, order.

Hon. Mr. Walker: —we could rest assured there would have been no investigation necessary.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Honourable senators, the honourable senator is entirely out of order. This is something that should not be referred to in this debate. This is a matter before a judicial inquiry, and my honourable friend has made a mistake in bringing it up.

Hon. Mr. Walker: Honourable senators, it will be a new day when anybody takes advice from the honourable senator on parliamentary procedure. He has been notoriously wrong in the past, and I must point out to him that if he reads the record of the House of Commons he will find that reference was made to this incident long after the judicial inquiry was set up.

I have been shocked by the vehemence of the attack—

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I think the point raised by the honourable Senator Roebuck is well taken. I feel sure that the honourable Senator Walker, who has had some experience in the application of the rules of the house, knows that he is out of order when he mentions these things. I shall ask him not to continue in that vein.

Hon. Mr. Walker: Mr. Speaker, as an old friend and acquaintance of yours, and because of the respect I have for the Chair, I will obey any ruling you make, but I will not take any lesson in parliamentary procedure from the distinguished senator who has just interrupted.

I have been shocked by the vehemence of the attacks made on the former Prime Minister in the other place, as he fought for the maintenance of the symbols and traditions