

not hesitated to fight against their former fatherland wherever there was a call for them to do so.

Then, too, there were the Gaelic-speaking Scots, who made a noteworthy contribution as our hon. friends from Pictou and Cape Breton will attest. It seems that these Gaelic-speaking Scots have the ability to make a contribution wherever they land. Since that time we have had elements of other foreign nations within the province. I mention the great part which the United Empire Loyalists have played in the development of Nova Scotia. I also would recall the group known as the Canadian Yankees. These last two classes within the province were at odds with each other during the American revolution. But each contributed in its own way toward the development of the province, and some very fine books have been written on the part they played. One in particular, written by a native of Nova Scotia—Tom Raddall—sets forth in a clear and interesting way the close association between people in Nova Scotia and their friends in the United States.

The house is well aware that we have not been without our serious and unfortunate racial incidents, one of the most regrettable of which culminated in the expulsion of the Acadians from Nova Scotia at Grand Pré in 1755. Longfellow's immortal poem, "Evangeline", is based on this unfortunate incident.

But Nova Scotia has been able to take all these racial differences in her stride and mould the various factions into a unified group whose only interest is the welfare of the province. In the main, the differences have not impeded the province in its march forward, as is evidenced by the leading place she is taking in Canadian history. As is well known, Nova Scotia is the cradle of responsible government and is the only province in the dominion which is unified under a flag of its own. In that connection I should like to read briefly from a book, "The Book of Ultima Thule", by Archibald MacMechan. I quote:

Only Nova Scotia has a provincial flag, not English, not French, in origin, but all its own. It is a white flag with the blue St. Andrew's cross (saltire) dividing the "field" in four. In the centre is the double-tressured lion of Scotland, the ruddy lion rampant in gold. You recognize, of course, the arms of Sir William Alexander, first grantee of the province, still borne in part by the baronets of Nova Scotia, that order of nobility to which Sir Arthur was so proud to belong. Sir William was a Scot, a poet, and a favourite of that kindly Scot, King James, First of England, but Sixth of Scotland. He burned to found a kingdom in the New World, and was granted the province of Acadie.

When in 1867 we entered confederation, the system of unification within the province did not stop.

My purpose in presenting this brief background of racial history and the problems encountered, is to demonstrate that even before confederation the process of welding these different religious and racial groups into one unified whole was well under way and it did not stop after we entered into confederation. Although, after confederation, our status, like that of the other provinces, was that of being just one of several provinces within the Dominion of Canada we have never felt that this fact was an impediment to the development of unity within the province. We have lived with this matter of provincial sovereignty, now provincial rights or provincial autonomy, so long that we have been able to take it in our stride, as is evidenced by the fact that we have in Nova Scotia overcome all problems resulting from race, language and religion. Nationhood or, indeed, true provincial unity is something that must be developed by the people. Legislation will not do it.

To go one step farther, even as Nova Scotia did not find it to be any lasting obstacle to provincial unity to be only one of the provinces forming Canada, I do not believe it to be any obstacle to Canada's status as a nation that she is one of the British commonwealth of nations. I say in this connection that there was no "lasting" obstacle to provincial unity in Nova Scotia because I would not want the house to believe that there was no obstacle at all resulting from these various racial problems and racial groups.

I know that in this house we all agree, regardless of language or race, that it has been to Canada's advantage in full measure that she has been a member of the British commonwealth and that we have had the privilege of enjoying the benefits accruing to us from this association. I am aware that this matter of benefits is not a one-way traffic, and as the hon. member for Bonaventure (Mr. Arsenault) has said, the British commonwealth likewise should be pleased that Canada has been a part of that commonwealth.

To return to the resolution, I do not feel that it presents a practical handicap to us to have the king known as King of the British dominions beyond the seas. Our status as a nation is assured regardless. It is not just a matter of words. It is an accomplished fact and one of which we are all proud. Almost every day events within Canada as well as the