

But there are still a few among us who question the possibility of two linguistic and cultural groups flourishing side by side within the same national borders and who would recall the statement of the old man on his golden wedding anniversary - "Domestic bliss," he said, "is a question of compromise and mutual concessions. Marriage is a give-and-take affair. When we set up house my wife drank coffee, and I drank tea. Now we both drink coffee."

Of course there have been problems and there have even been moments of bitterness, but reason and understanding and goodwill have always triumphed in the end, and today the Canadians of French origin and those of English origin are able to live side by side and work together with the more recent arrivals in building a greater Canada.

My own ancestry is divided between these two important Canadian groups and for this reason I am perhaps in a favourable position to judge their value and their effect upon one another. Both groups have been the richer for their contact with the other. Just as the French-speaking Canadians have been the beneficiaries of the British system of justice and of Parliamentary government, so too their English-speaking fellow citizens have benefitted from this association. And each still has opportunities to enrich itself from the culture and heritage of the other.

It was Goethe, one of the great figures of another important culture who said "each language bestows upon you a new life". It is for this reason that I claim that Canadians should rejoice that this double cultural heritage is available to us.

Our pioneer ancestors who faced the elements with poor tools and meagre resources knew that the ability to get along with their neighbours was vital to their survival. This ability to get along together, to listen to and respect the opinions and rights of others and yet to be true to oneself marks the mature man.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in her recent book, "It Seems to Me", gave her definition of a mature person in different words.... "A mature person" she wrote, "is one who does not think only in absolutes, who is able to be objective even when deeply stirred emotionally, who has learned that there is both good and bad in all people and in all things, and who walks humbly and deals charitably with the circumstances of life, knowing that in this world no one is all-knowing and therefore all of us need both love and charity". It seems to me that Mrs. Roosevelt's definition of maturity should be a standard for nations as well as for individuals.

Unfortunately, it is not sufficient for a nation in this modern age simply to sit back with a tolerant understanding of others; in the words of the political philosopher Edmund Burke "for evil to triumph it is only necessary for good men to do nothing".

The people of Canada have taken up arms on two occasions during this century in defence of the way of life of free men and nations. It was our hope that after the last conflict it would be possible for us to devote