

The Address—Mr. A. Gauthier

By granting the requests of the Canadian Legion and by carrying out our recommendations, the government did justice to the veterans of the two world wars and carried forward the social security program it is trying to extend even further to all classes of Canadians. This brings me to the most important social security legislation ever passed by a Canadian parliament since confederation—I mean the act providing for old age security.

Personally, I am delighted to be a member of the parliament that passed that legislation and I take pride in supporting the government that brought it forward.

In this way, the federal government will be contributing half the cost of pensions for those aged 65 to 70 and will assume the entire cost of paying a universal pension of \$40 per month to people aged 70 and over. As stated by the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Martin), we can all be proud of the fact that Canada is the first country to pay a universal pension without a means test.

In two previous speeches in this house I had the honour to ask that this social security be afforded the old people of my constituency. I am glad that this is at last an accomplished fact.

The mover of the address in reply spoke of national unity. This national unity, to my mind, would be far better served if the Department of National Defence were to erect a military college in the province of Quebec. This would make it easier for our young men to make a career of army life.

The Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton) seems to be very favourably disposed with regard to the requests of French-speaking Canadians. I am confident therefore he will give our recruits the same advantages given those of other provinces. The establishment of a military college in my province would remove an injustice and the source of many grievances. National unity would be strengthened and we would be better prepared to play our part in the international field.

It is comforting to see the growing importance Canada is assuming among the nations of the world. As stated a few days ago by a Quebec newspaper, *L'Action Catholique*, one feels something has changed. Yes, many things have changed. Canadianism has become a more and more compelling force, and our country, united within by a common patriotism and by common feelings, is beginning to assert its sovereignty abroad.

This is due to the wisdom of its government and, in particular, to the broad-mindedness and the ability of the great statesman who presides over its destinies.

[Mr. Gauthier (Lake St. John).]

In closing, Mr. Speaker, may I add that in my opinion national unity would be greatly strengthened if every Canadian from coast to coast could fly the same typically Canadian flag.

(Text):

Mr. H. O. White (Middlesex East): Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to take very much of the time of the house tonight, but there are two or three matters I should like to mention. First, I want to support the amendment introduced by the hon. member for Acadia (Mr. Quelch). One of the matters I want to deal with is that of the reserve army and our railways. The reserve army enjoys a high priority as far as military goods and supplies are concerned. It is on the reserve army that we can draw to maintain our forces in other parts of the world. On good authority I understand that while many small firms, private industries and companies aid this effort by allowing their employees to take time off to assist in the development of the reserve army, the railways in some instances are discouraging their men from participating in those activities. Therefore I would suggest that the Minister of Transport and the Minister of National Defence get together on this so they will not be pulling one against the other at a time when we need all the men we can possibly get to participate in our defence activities.

When I took part in the throne speech some three weeks ago I mentioned the amounts of money that were available for stemming the tide of communism and for the rehabilitation of Europe and other lands. After the debacle of Iran and the oil negotiations there we find that the premier comes to America and we pat him on the back and say: "You are a good boy." He is lent \$9 million from the international monetary fund and told; "You have been a bad boy; go home and sin no more." That seems to me to be a very nice way of rewarding a certain amount of international brigandage.

Then we were more or less shocked, then reassured, and today again alarmed about the developments in Europe and the alleged commitment of Canadian funds for the building of airports and barracks in Europe. Whether it is right or wrong I am not going to say, but I want to point out first that we have all these hundreds of millions of dollars to do these things, yet our young people in Canada are not able to establish themselves on the land or in business. We have money to pour out all over Europe and Asia for these questionable purposes, and the defence of Europe. With all the people they