

ment in Canada to unite and help our nation—nothing; and there is nothing any Canadian who is properly built could refuse to do.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: But do not conduct things the way you have conducted them up to now. It will take a long time to bring us to real participation. How long a time we have, the leader of the Government does not know, and I do not know, but I ask him to move on the assumption that the time is brief. Do not be looking ahead for years. Try to get the utmost done in the next month, still more in two months, still more in three. Only in that way can any Government do its duty under present conditions for the people of our country.

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable senators, I must try to calm the storm raised by my right honourable friend (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) by turning to the mover (Hon. Mr. Paterson) and the seconder (Hon. Mr. Blais) of the motion and congratulating them upon their addresses. I wish to say to the mover, who comes from the Upper Lakes, that this Chamber claims to be fairly representative of all elements that go to make up the nation, and I am sure that the contribution which my honourable friend will make to our deliberations will prove that the Government was right in calling him to our ranks.

The honourable senator who seconded this motion comes from Edmonton. I listened to him closely. I feel he was too kind in his references to the leader of the Senate, but apart from that I may say his address was very well prepared. We know that in his province he stands high in the medical fraternity and is looked up to by all the members of his profession. His reputation goes beyond the borders of Alberta, and I am sure that the Senate will be the better for his presence.

My right honourable friend (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) has alluded to the demise of Lord Tweedsmuir and to the coming of the Earl of Athlone and Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice. I join with him in the encomiums that have fallen from his lips, and with the Government in the statement contained in the Speech from the Throne. I remember the day when my right honourable friend rose and stated that a commoner, John Buchan, had been appointed Governor General. I should have much preferred the Governor General's retention of that name, which he had made so illustrious. We found in him a wise statesman with the poise of a cultured gentleman, and with a clear understanding of the needs of Canada, and he soon endeared himself to the hearts of all Canadians.

I feel that we are honoured by the appointment of the Earl of Athlone, who will be accompanied here by his brilliant consort, the Princess Alice. We await their arrival, and we shall try to make them as happy among us as were Lord Tweedsmuir and his family.

Now, I confess that I was not much surprised at my right honourable friend's oration. He has shown in days past his strong dissatisfaction with the Administration, and I think his state of mind has become more and more pessimistic since grave news has been coming daily from Europe. I cannot for a moment believe that my right honourable friend represents any widespread sentiment in Canada when he utters the strictures that we have heard from him. A "National" Government was offered the people of this country on the 26th of March, and was rejected almost unanimously. The Conservative party disappeared even before the electors reached the polls. I do not know that half a dozen candidates presented themselves as Conservatives. Dr. Manion made a special effort to carry a majority of the electorate with him on his proposal to form a National Government such as my right honourable friend suggests to-day. The electors have been heard from, and they have rejected the proposal. They have decided that in comparison with that unknown National Government which was to contain the "best brains of the country," the men at the helm were the best men to continue in the conduct of affairs during the war, surrounded as they were by the best brains of the country, to be called into their councils. My right honourable friend will not deny that the present Government, in the formation of boards for the carrying on of war work from A to Z, has the support of the best men who could be selected. I could name such men, on various boards, and individually they would receive the commendation of my right honourable friend.

An Hon. SENATOR: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: This is the Government that has been carrying on during the last six months.

My right honourable friend spent half an hour in trying to establish that the Government was false to the Parliament of Canada when it refused to state that conversations were going on, which did not ripen into decision, and in maintaining that these should now be rehearsed before this Chamber, in order to show that the Government is unworthy—

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: The Prime Minister said a refusal was given.