

that illusive requisite called Canadian identity could perhaps be matched in other parts of the country, but could not be surpassed.

The Fathers of Confederation were not dreamers. They wanted to create a real Canadian nation wherein two cultures, English and French, must be free to develop, each according to its own traditions and character. These historic facts were made very clear in the drafting of the act of 1867.

In mentioning the Fathers of Confederation, a Conservative cannot but take pride in the fact that Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's first Prime Minister and founder of the Conservative Party, and Sir Georges-Étienne Cartier, were the chief builders of Confederation. Sir John A. Macdonald's dream was to build a nation from sea to sea, and he would never have become a father of his country had he not possessed a vision of Canada's possibilities for greatness.

In this respect our present Prime Minister has much in common with Sir John A. Macdonald. He also possesses a vision of Canada's future greatness. Would it not then be simple justice, and most fitting, that, as Canada's thirteenth or fourteenth Prime Minister after the next election, the Right Honourable John G. Diefenbaker be the one to play the leading role in the celebrations to mark to 100th anniversary of Canada's nationhood?

And what of bilingualism? Volumes have been written about its tangible contribution to this specific national identity. Suffice it to say that the bilingual Canadian of today, from the standpoint of pure logic, has a cultural edge on his unilingual compatriot; and anyone who refutes this, or rejects an opportunity to learn the second language, simply limits his own potential.

Common sense dictates that circumstances and geography determine the opportunity and degree of our bilingualism. However, circumstance and geography should have no bearing on a sincere good-will effort at a better understanding of our fellow Canadians. I would submit that if the hand of English-speaking Canada grasps the hand of Quebec we will together rediscover Canada, and in so doing build a truly great nation for ourselves and generations to come.

It has been well said that language is indispensable to culture, and it stands to reason that every additional language acquired stands for additional culture. It seems a fact that when people can understand and converse in each other's language a link of sympathy is established, and a verbal exchange of viewpoints frequently prevents "molehills" from becoming "mountains" of misunderstanding.

It is beyond doubt that the installation of a simultaneous translation system in the other place and here in the Senate is a great step forward, for this has removed the language barrier between English-speaking and French-speaking members of both houses. In fact, it is an excellent opportunity to perfect our knowledge and pronunciation of each other's language. May I be permitted without being accused of undue partisanship to congratulate the Conservative Government for this action, which was long overdue?

It has been truly said that "the greatness of a country is measured by the stature of the men and women who live in it". Many challenges will have to be faced during the next few years, but surely Canadian unity is worth some serious soul-searching to work out a solution.

In a democracy you and I are responsible, or to blame, if we cannot make it work, and it is up to each and every one of us to help our public men, our governments, and others, to find a solution to this resurgence of ethnic spirit now taking place in Quebec. We would all do well to recognize the impact of this resurgence.

Maybe our young people will provide the answer to these problems. Let us by our example help them to abolish the bridgeheads of bigotry and hatred wherever and whenever they appear. Let us teach them to develop their capacity for independence of thought, to show respect for laws and authority, to understand clearly the democratic principles by which we live, and to live by the Divine commandment: "Love thy neighbour as thyself".

We must convince Canada's youth of the wonderful heritage they have, teach them to develop a new set of values based upon justice and tolerance, geared to meeting the challenge of the new situation in human relations, and make them realize that it is in large measure up to them to make Sir Wilfrid Laurier's prophecy that "the 20th century belongs to Canada" come true.

Today's youth have labelled themselves the "if" generation. If they are given the opportunity to reach manhood they might attempt to solve some of the problems which now threaten to blow up their world. If we, their elders, keep the world from blowing up with their youthful dreams, they would endeavour to succeed where we have failed.

What a pitifully small inheritance they are willing to settle for—simply, that we prevent their world from blowing up! I submit that right here and now we should strive towards leaving them something a little better than a planet still physically intact. We might not entirely solve the problems of prejudice and