

people from many diverse cultures who have come to make their homes and raise their children here.

And, honourable senators, we have this great land. There is a story I have told and written before, but I hope you will bear with me if I tell it again. It is very short. Back in the forties, the late Philius Côté, the member of Parliament for Matapédia-Matane, went out west for the first time. On a clear winter's morning, a friend persuaded him to go to the top of the old Palliser Hotel in Calgary. He looked westward then at the magical moment when the rising sun painted the great white wall of the Rockies with many shades of crimson. Overwhelmed by so much beauty he turned to his friend and said, "This is the most grandiose country that God is ever making."

What had overwhelmed him was, of course, the sudden realization that it was his country that stretched before him. Philius Côté's grammar may not have been of the best, but he communicated, and that is what language is supposed to do.

I know well how he felt. For 30 years I have spent every summer in Quebec beside a small lake in the Gatineau. The nearest neighbour is half a mile away, and there is no other cottage on the lake.

Literally thousands of times I have sat on the veranda during the hours just before sunset, when the wood thrush sings its glorious song, and the heron, after fishing in the shallows of the lake, takes off on huge slow wings to go home for the night. On such summer evenings the air smells of pine

and balsam, and pink clouds are reflected in the mirror of the clear water. In those happy hours of peace and tranquility I have often thought, "C'est le pays le plus magnifique que le Bon Dieu a jamais fait." Honourable senators, my French is not very good, but I hope I have communicated with you what I feel.

It is with confidence and hope that I second the motion of Senator Rizzuto for an Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Senator Flynn: Honourable senators, I intend to move the adjournment of the debate until the next sitting, but before doing so I must congratulate the seconder of the motion on a most interesting and moving speech. We knew, of course, of Senator Bird's talents, but she has revealed them today in a manner which I am sure we all deeply appreciate.

There is an essential difference between Senator Bird's speech and that of Senator Rizzuto. Senator Bird obviously felt that on an occasion such as this one should endeavour to make a good, substantial speech. Having thus concluded, she was forced to digress from discussing the Speech from the Throne, because there is nothing in it. On the other hand, while Senator Rizzuto's was a very good speech, he felt he had to stick to what is contained in the Throne Speech, and, consequently, it was quite short.

I move the adjournment of the debate.

On motion of Senator Flynn, debate adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, October 17, 1978, at 8 p.m.
