

loops and Lillooet where Pauline Johnson, the great Indian poetess, wrote her famous poem, "The Trail to Lillooet":

Sob of fall, and song of forest, come you here  
on haunting quest,  
Calling through the seas and silence, from God's  
country of the west.  
Where the mountain pass is narrow, and the  
torrent white and strong,  
Down its rocky-throated cañon, sings its golden-  
throated song.

Then to Vancouver, the queen of them all in Canada, queen of the Pacific coast. I come now, I know to the great relief of the house, to a summary and conclusion of what was intended to be an entirely neutral presentation of this question. Our confederation of four provinces was formed upon the basis of the British North America Act. That is our constitution, and our bill of rights, especially the bill of rights of the provinces now numbering nine. Canada has its charters of liberty, beginning with the Quebec Act guaranteeing the sacred rights of language and religion. Imbedded in Canadian rights are the rights of minorities. The rights of the provinces are clearly laid down in section 92 of the British North America Act and sustained in countless decisions of the privy council. Canada has her maritime rights, her prairie rights, her Pacific rights, her Ontario rights, her Quebec rights; of course they are there. Our rights in a federal state are such as are agreed upon by cooperation and consent.

Who gave us these rights in Canada? First the reformers of 1837, William Lyon Mackenzie and Papineau in their struggle for responsible government. Secondly the fathers of confederation, Macdonald, Cartier, Brown, Tupper, Howe and McGee. It was they who gave to the people of Canada their "dominion from sea to sea". It was they who laid the foundations of this nation and "builded better than they knew". Thirdly, Mr. Speaker, rounding down from precedent to precedent, Mackenzie, the stone mason of Sarnia; Laurier, the knight of the white plume; Sir Robert Borden, with the big booming voice like the breakers on Nova Scotia shores, and our beloved leader of the present hour, Mackenzie King—all these gave greatness and stature to the nation which the founders had established.

World recognition of Canada's stature was won by the achievements of our fighting men in the first great war. Legal sanction to the accomplished fact was recorded in the historic language of the statute of Westminster, the preamble of which made clear that the principles of the statute were merely in accord with the established constitutional position of all the members of the commonwealth in relation to one another.

[Mr. Mackenzie.]

The statute of Westminster confirmed the free association of the members of the British commonwealth of nations.

Once again in the second great war our knights of the battle clouds, our sailors on the embattled seas, our soldiers on the battlefields of Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium and Holland, supported by the united efforts of this arsenal of the empire, this aerodrome of the united nations, raised Canada to the status of one of the world's great powers.

This new power and authority which accrued to Canada through her military and economic might was not the result of the seeking after glory or the desire to impose her will upon others. Whole-heartedly Canada subscribed to the charter of the united nations, whose high purposes are succinctly stated in articles 55 and 56. May I be permitted to quote them, because they are the kernel of this whole debate:

55. With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the united nations shall promote:

- (a) higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development;
- (b) solutions of international economic, social, health and related problems; and international cultural and educational cooperation; and
- (c) universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

56. All members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in article 55.

Here the united nations gave concrete expression to the ideal placed before the world by President Roosevelt in his four freedoms, and I think it might be well for us all to recall that marvellous voice over the air:

1. The first is freedom of speech and expression everywhere in the world.
2. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, everywhere in the world.
3. The third is freedom from want, which translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peace time life for its inhabitants everywhere in the world.
4. The fourth is freedom from fear, which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbour anywhere in the world.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it is well that Canada should play her part in drafting and proclaiming to the world an international bill