

The Hon. the SPEAKER: May I ask the honourable senator if the matter to which he refers is still before the courts? If it is, then it is sub judice and cannot be discussed here.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Your Honour will understand the position better than I. The company, I believe, is appealing to a higher court.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Then it is sub judice.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the session.

Hon. CYRILLE VAILLANCOURT moved that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament.

He said (Translation): Honourable Senators, on behalf of my compatriots I wish to thank the leader of the Government who has kindly entrusted to my modest capacities the task of replying to the Speech from the Throne. Life affords tasks which are pleasant to perform but which, at the same time, entail a heavy responsibility. I should like to be equal to the task that has been entrusted to me as well as to the cause for which we are all fighting with courage and perseverance. As stated in the Speech from the Throne, "In Europe the Allied forces are rapidly advancing to what there is every reason to believe will be decisive victory. Canada is prouder than ever of the splendid achievements of her fighting forces, at sea, on land, and in the air."

Why are we so proud of our fighting forces? Why have our fellow Canadians been so valiant in combat? Is it not because their hearts and souls are buoyed up by faith in the freedom which it was desired to take away from us? Our soldiers offer their lives so that we may live. And if, after such efforts, sacrifices, and marks of devotion those gallant soldiers see, on their return home, their country divided, if they find a revolutionary flame ablaze through the length and breadth of our Canada, I wonder what our heroes will think. Yet, in this moment, perhaps the most solemn in our history, when all energies should unite in a last effort for victory and peace, there are in our midst extremists who are engaged in disrupting our great Canada. Those extremists, those fire-brands, wherever they come from, be it from the East, from

the Centre or from the West, are evil-doers, and all men of good will who love their country should unite in a spirit of staunch co-operation with a vow to silence those fomenters of discord. I shall refrain from naming any one of those individuals, because I would thus confer on them too much importance. I earnestly appeal to newspaper editors, who are still conscious of their responsibility, to stop reporting and thereby magnifying all such calumnies, slanders, and absurdities, which only stir up ill feelings and can do much harm to this country. Because a hot-head, often one who has never achieved any success in life except in destructive work—because a hot-head in some part of the country launches an attack against another race, another sect, or another religion, immediately some papers pick up such remarks uttered by a crank and spread them throughout the country. An incendiary torch is thus tossed into a building filled with inflammable material. For what purpose are newspapers reporting such utterances, which often are untrue and always are exaggerated? For what purpose are they doing that? I can see just one, which is the more or less worthy domination of fanaticism which, in dividing the people, enables a small group better to exploit others. While the people squabble, heap abuse on each other, and even slaughter one another, a handful of exploiters laugh and set up their domination upon ruins. But it does not matter, pride is satisfied. If they are sincere in the right direction, if they really love their country, newspaper editors, whose task it is to disseminate ideas, will stop reporting such subversive speeches, and instead they will fill the pages of their papers with the words of level-headed and wise men who love their country, who want to see it become great, beautiful, and prosperous, but who wish to promote its well-being by resorting to justice, charity and mutual love.

Complaints are voiced in some parts of this country about the province of Quebec. In that province, some people claim that their rights are not respected. On either side, there are people who take advantage of prejudices, who shout, and even roar. I have never seen any problem solved by shouting. But I have seen men meet each other, and sometimes exchange harsh words, but if they were sincere, they eventually came to an agreement. A thing is never wholly white nor wholly black. On closer inspection, it can sometimes be noticed that things are not as beautiful as when viewed from a distance, not so ugly as they seemed to be before being more closely examined. Freedom is not only for a group of men, it is for all men; and my freedom ends where my neighbour's begins. Through my