

far-reaching effects if it can be implemented. Of that, I am quite sure.

Just to give you an example, CRANO is endeavouring to create a touristic industry, since the geographical attractions have remained so far utterly unexploited. In this connection, an important touristic project looks auspicious at Grand Falls, in Victoria county, and our citizens are very seriously considering other sites.

We are dealing, Mr. Speaker, with people anxious to study the best ways to better their condition. These people do not want to rely any more on government's charity alone. They have shown up to this day their desire and their ability to assume their own responsibilities. Their action will, in the end, reduce considerably the number of people depending on social welfare.

[English]

Mr. Speaker, I am Canadian, first and foremost. I belong to that generation, still young, born between the great depression and the second world war. It is with a very deep sense of concern that I sit in this house with colleagues devoted to the growth and the unity of our country. I feel a certain apprehension before the enormous task that lies ahead, and yet we must now get down to serious work.

[Translation]

Before coming to this house, Mr. Speaker, I worked as a newspaperman. I have always found that journalists and politicians both play a very significant role in the general guidance of public opinion and the common weal. Journalists must concern themselves with telling the facts and commenting them in the light of the people and events affected by them. Politicians and political decisions are quite often at the centre of things. To gain favour with the public, politicians and journalists must be mainly concerned with having a highly developed respect for truth, not always an easy thing nowadays.

However, it is with such an attitude and frame of mind that I wish to represent my constituents of Madawaska-Victoria and to work in the general interests of my country. Besides I can not see how, in the present situation, what would be good for Madawaska-Victoria would not also be good for Canada as a whole.

The Address—Mr. Len Marchand

Before I yield to the hon. member for Kamloops-Cariboo (Mr. Marchand) and with his support, I move:

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Hon. Roland Michener, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada, who was awarded the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

• (12:50 p.m.)

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kamloops-Cariboo.

Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon. members of this house for the warm welcome they have extended to me. I am deeply conscious of the honour that has been paid to me in being allowed to speak at this time, an honour shared by my family and my constituents. I should like to thank the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and his Cabinet colleagues for extending it to me.

Canada has seen many changes in the years since confederation. There have been many changes in society and many changes in government; but there is a special significance in the change brought about by the last election. We have now our first prime minister who was born in this century, a man who may very well be the agency through which Sir Wilfrid Laurier's famous phrase that the twentieth century belongs to Canada may come true. In any case, Canada now truly belongs to the twentieth century.

Our new Prime Minister has shown that Canadians who are dedicated to purposes beyond their own selfish ends can rise rapidly in public life. He has shown that Canadian people will respond to a challenge when that challenge is made clear to them. His career is a demonstration of what we have all known; that in Canada there are thousands, millions of people who believe in the destiny of our land, who believe that we can live together as civilized people, and who believe that we can overcome the barriers of the past—the barriers of language and of prejudice, barriers set up in too many places, and barriers which may hold back those who are not of the majority.