

• (4:50 p.m.)

Let me refer, Mr. Speaker, to one of the great heroes of our own time, Vanier, whose presence amongst us served almost as a benediction. In his message delivered on July 1, 1966, which you will remember was mainly to the young people of Canada, he suggested that we examine our national conscience and say whether or not in 1967 we will as a nation be able to stand up under the world's scrutiny. He never ceased to think of us as a nation and as a family.

Let us never forget his challenge of New Year's day, 1967. He called upon Canadians to forget past bitterness and to build a future "which will make the progress of this century seem pale by comparison". Before his simple prayer that we may all go forward hand in hand, he said:

Canada owes it to the world to remain united because no lesson is more badly needed than the one our unity can supply, the lesson that diversity need not be cause for conflict but, on the contrary, may lead to richer and nobler living.

According to the book of Ecclesiastes, the preacher informs us that to everything there is a season: there is a time to be born and a time to die, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to break down and a time to build up. The question has been put: Do we now rise as a country or do we call it quits?

For inspiration, Mr. Speaker, I look to our old parliamentary colleague, Cy Kennedy, who epitomizes for me duty, steadiness, sacrifice and courage. All we must do is to ask what is best for Canada and follow that course fearlessly. For me the response is easy. I am not one of those sophisticates ashamed to declare love of country. Indeed, perhaps it is in the moment that Canadians declare their gut loyalty to Canada that we become a nation.

[Translation]

I love Canada and while many millions like me live, she will never be deserted nor betrayed.

[English]

I am particularly pleased, Mr. Speaker, that the new Order of Canada bears as its motto the words "desiderantes meliorem patriam"—"desirers of a better country". We are embarked on a great pilgrimage of faith in search of a better country. I am convinced that in Canada today many of our people still believe in that Lord of Hosts of the Hebrew prophets who brings down the loftiness of man and who humbles his haughtiness, who

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entered into a spiritual covenant to lead those who chose to be his people into the new Jerusalem.

The city of God is not built up on earth by the work of our hands alone. It descends from God out of heaven to those that cry out. That great student of sociology and culture—yes, and of history—Christopher Dawson, speaks of a ladder having been let down out of heaven by which mankind can escape.

What I urge is that in the agony of our self-examination as a country—one nation, two nations, a hundred nations, it matters not for we, like the world, are legion—we never lose sight of the affirmation that "He shall have dominion from sea to sea". If this is so, if in Canada He truly is King, then we have no fear. Who in Canada who believes at all can deny that we are all brothers? Who could deny at this point in our history, which is full of violence, wars and rumours of war, that some group of human beings somewhere must call a new world into existence based upon genuine brotherhood if only to help redress the balance of the old? What better place to start than in Canada.

I am not a wholly impractical fellow. I was a soldier, I was trained in economics, my profession is the law—all pretty mundane preoccupations. Yet I am absolutely convinced that the way of man is not in himself. Let us never overlook the mysterious and unpredictable aspect of history. I believe that already hidden spiritual forces are at work. Our sense of failure and helplessness in this land of plenty at this historic juncture of history compels us to reach out into the darkness for the hand that will guide Canada into a new starting point of progress.

Canadians of both tongues must now march forward together into the second century with heads high and with arms joined like our Expo symbol, in faith, in hope and in love. On this plane there can be no defeat for our nation nor any human being in it.

With the help of Him who will keep our feet from falling—long live Canada.

Mr. F. J. W. Fane (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to have an opportunity to say a few words in the budget debate, an opportunity for which I have waited since June 1.

First, I want to say I am more than surprised at the conduct of the government when the session resumed a week ago on Monday, September 25. It was disgraceful