

young people, as have so rightly done all authorities entrusted more directly with the moral protection of our children.

It is obvious, honourable colleagues, from a cursory look at the Speech from the Throne, that the legislative program for this session is a heavy one. But this house, which includes so many men of wisdom, is willing to fulfil its traditional role, which is essential to our parliamentary system, under the guidance of its distinguished Speaker and with the help of its standing committees. I am sure that when the session comes to an end the Canadian people will have nothing but praise for the Senate, which a small minority of our people, who do not understand its true function, would wrongly like to abolish.

(Text):

May I now conclude with a few observations in English.

In seconding the motion for an Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, I should like to thank the honourable the Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) for the high honour he has bestowed upon me. The honour, as I see it, is not intended so much for myself personally as for the French-speaking Canadians in all parts of our great country.

I have been delighted to observe the steady progress being made to strengthen the bonds of friendship and understanding between the two pioneer races which were the joint architects of Canada. The most recent and in some respects the most dramatic indication of this progress is the installation of a system of simultaneous translation in the other house. I am confident that we will soon have a similar system in this chamber so that there will be that fullness of communication in both languages which is the basis of all understanding. As that great statesman, Sir Robert Borden—whose stature grows with the passage of time—so wisely said:

The qualities of the French and English temperaments are in many respects complementary. Each is capable of distinctive service to the state and each has given it. Not in fusion but through co-operation, the highest service of the two races can best be given to Canada.

Honourable senators, I am a Conservative in both the senses in which that word is used. As such, I am opposed to change simply for the sake of change. And that is why I am highly pleased that those who so faithfully and ably guided the deliberations in this chamber during the last session are still in their accustomed places. I have already referred to the genial and capable Leader of the Government. May I now make reference

to his equally genial and capable deputy, the honourable gentleman from Hanover (Hon. Mr. Brunt). I had occasion during my maiden speech to compliment the Honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) on his unflinching courtesy. That was perhaps a first impression but one which has since been confirmed in countless ways both inside and outside this chamber. Finally, I believe I am expressing the views of all within the sound of my voice when I say that we are blessed with an outstanding Speaker who, whether he is presiding in this chamber or representing us beyond its doors, adds constantly to the lustre of the Senate of Canada.

Honourable senators, it would not be desirable, even if it were possible, to comment in any detail upon the measures contemplated in the Speech from the Throne. The details of the measures are not disclosed in the speech, nor will they be disclosed until the individual bills are introduced. There will be ample opportunity to discuss them severally as they reach the Senate and they will certainly be given in committee the careful scrutiny we have come to expect of our committees.

But perhaps I might usefully make some general comments on the speech as a whole. In the first place, we are all delighted that Her Gracious Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip will visit us this year on the occasion of the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway and that they will travel to most parts of Canada. On their last visit they endeared themselves anew to the people of Canada. Her Majesty and the Prince will come this time not merely as symbols of royalty but as good friends.

May I remark also on the visit of the Right Honourable the Prime Minister to the commonwealth capitals. Out of the visit much good, both tangible and intangible, must surely come. And by the same token, much good must come—and indeed already has come—from the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference held in Montreal last September.

Honourable senators, the joint aims of government are peace and prosperity. I believe that from both points of view we may look forward to 1959 with cautious optimism. There are sure signs that we are moving out of the recent recession and that we may realize our high hopes for the continued long-term advancement of the Canadian economy. As James Muir, Chairman and President of the Royal Bank of Canada, said in speaking to the 90th annual meeting of shareholders on January 8, 1959:

Canada has everything needed to solve her own problems of economic development. She has abundant natural resources, a highly productive and