

*The Address—Mr. Hollingworth*

daily expansion of home building; but I am assured by the Postmaster General (Mr. Cote) that he will take the necessary steps to help us remedy this matter.

The other populated parts of the riding consist of the delightful villages of Woodbridge and Thornhill at the northern part of the riding. In short, this is a typical English-speaking Canadian community in a suburban metropolitan area with a great community spirit.

York Centre has as its eastern boundary famed Yonge street, which runs all the way from lake Ontario, through the heart of Toronto, and on into the northland. This famous street has been, from the earliest times, the highway of commerce to the north. About the only thing I could tell you about the history of York Centre is that the intrepid William Lyon Mackenzie, in endeavouring to establish responsible government, marched his forces down Yonge street to lay siege to muddy York. Somewhat later in our history—on July 29, 1953, to be exact—our esteemed Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) drove up Yonge street and made a triumphant entry into Newton Brook, his birthplace, where he spoke on my behalf. I suppose one can say that the purposes of the two journeys were not too dissimilar in that one was to establish responsible government and the other was to retain it.

It would have been fanciful for me to have assumed just one year ago that I would be moving the address in reply to the speech from the throne here today. Then I did not think that I should have the privilege of serving under our distinguished Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent). Our Prime Minister stands high among the statesmen of the world. He is a man respected and revered not only in every home in our land but in every world capital where the concepts of integrity, decency and humanity prevail. To my mind his outstanding achievements have been the final welding of Canada into one indissoluble nation and his role of interpreter between the great commonwealth countries of the Far East and the western world.

Again, I did not anticipate having the privilege of listening to the brilliant oratory of the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Drew) or of imbibing from the deep wells of humanitarianism of the leader of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, or of listening to the views and policies of the leader of the Social Credit group who, like all party leaders, has at heart only the best interests of our beloved Canada.

Since the prorogation of the last session of the twenty-first parliament many events have taken place. The first event of great

consequence was the coronation of the Queen of Canada, Elizabeth II, who has made such a tremendous impact upon the imagination of the commonwealth by her humility, graciousness and devotion to duty.

The thought has often been expressed that the crowning of our sovereign may well usher in a new era for the commonwealth, just as the reign of Elizabeth I was a glorious one in the annals of the British Empire. That is something to be earnestly hoped for, because the commonwealth is the best example today of how free peoples can govern themselves and co-operate, joined by the most tenuous but at the same time the most powerful of bonds, namely that of a common loyalty to the crown.

The next important event, of course, was the return of the government with a good working majority; and I say, not facetiously but not I am sure without contradiction from my friends in the opposition, that the results showed the good common sense and the political maturity of the Canadian people from coast to coast. The government was returned because of its sound progressive policies enacted for the benefit not of one group, class or section of the Canadian people but for all Canadians. The government further recognizes that the interests of rural and urban Canada are complementary, not conflicting and contradictory. In short, we represent not only the farmers of the prairies, the fishermen of the maritimes and the British Columbia coast, the fruit growers of the Annapolis and Okanagan valleys and the Niagara peninsula, business and labour; we represent all but not any one group. That is why this government was returned.

May I now review briefly the domestic and foreign policies of the government. Foreign policy is of vital concern to all of us because in this atomic age isolationism is impossible and immunity from attack is highly improbable. That is why we are so fortunate in having such brilliant leadership in the field of foreign affairs.

The touchstone of our foreign policy has been unflinching and unwavering support of the programs and policies of the United Nations. Since the house last met, an armistice has been effected in Korea; and I should like to take this opportunity of commenting on the magnificent efforts of our Canadian troops in Korea. The important point about this armistice is that aggression has been thwarted and that the first serious application of collective security under the aegis of the United Nations has worked.

A particularly significant event will take place early in 1954 when our Prime Minister will visit India, Pakistan and Ceylon on a