

moves in a direction that will enable all citizens of Canada to look for and find a happy and honourable life.

Old age pensions, the improvement of which is forecast in the speech from the throne, were inaugurated by a Liberal government. They constitute a security for aged people.

Pensions for the blind, invalids and indigent mothers, advocated by Liberal governments, protect the citizens against the hazards of nature.

Unemployment insurance, also introduced by a Liberal government, mitigates the fluctuations in our economy. It means security for labour.

Family allowances, also inaugurated by a Liberal government, ensure security for the family. They contribute to a more advanced degree of education which will allow individuals, whatever their social standing, to develop their natural qualities and gifts in the best interests of their own families and the state.

Here is an internal economy measure which corrects abuses and contributes to the equitable distribution of wealth without infringing on the pride and freedom of our citizens, which should constitute the very foundation of ambition.

This, honourable senators, is a policy which commands our respect. It enables us to avoid obstacles which seem to be insurmountable; it alleviates miseries dependent on an excess of freedom, and it leaves our fellow citizens with the ambition and freedom without which individual development within a free and proud nation is unachievable.

Let us pursue the implementation of this essentially liberal doctrine. Let us spread it throughout the country so that our people will forget those empty formulas which the freedom of speech we hold so dear causes to be broadcast hither and yon.

After having won victory by the force of arms and won the peace that ensued, we shall have won the victory of democracy.

The Speech from the Throne tells us that federal-provincial agreements will be submitted to us. We shall evidently have the opportunity of discussing them after it has been possible for us to ascertain what they are and examine them in detail. These negotiations are of vital importance, for in the next five years the whole internal economic structure of both the dominion and the provinces will be based on them.

I sincerely hope that all who will be party to the discussions will have as sole object the welfare of the Canadian people. I am confident that not one of the representatives of the dominion or the provinces will attempt

to inject party politics into such deliberations. The object to be attained is far too lofty to allow party interest and political strategy to enter the picture. The only factors to be taken into account are the interest, welfare and prosperity of Canadians in so far as they do not conflict with the rights and privileges granted each province under the constitution.

A constitution such as ours could not, of course, foresee and settle each particular case. It must be interpreted with the same degree of fairness, integrity and good-will which the Fathers of Confederation brought to its preparation.

Thus only will it be possible to ensure that every Canadian will enjoy the security to which he is entitled.

It is only in this spirit, and by founding all discussions of the subject on those principles, that the real interests of our people will be served.

(Text):

Honourable senators, I have tried to point out to you the high lights of Canadian politics as outlined in the Speech from the Throne. It is my conviction that the government intends to submit for our consideration the most appropriate measures for the prosperity and happiness of Canadian citizens.

I wish to express my gratitude for the kind attention you have given me. I am deeply touched by your warm reception to new members in this house, and I dare say that we already feel at home. We have the feeling of coming into a family gathering, where we shall all work together towards the betterment of living conditions in Canada. It is needless for me to say that I am willing to learn this very difficult and complicated task of government. I shall collaborate with every member of this house wholeheartedly.

Hon. Mr. Haig moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.

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## THE SENATE

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Wednesday, February 5, 1947.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.