

prepared to give us an assurance that before any permit is issued for the development of canalization of the St. Lawrence river the house will have an opportunity of discussing the subject?

Mr. SPEAKER: Questions of this nature should be preceded by notice.

Mr. HEAPS: I trust the Prime Minister will accept this as notice.

### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. T. M. CAYLEY  
AND SECONDED BY MR. C. E. FERLAND

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. T. M. CAYLEY (South Oxford): Mr. Speaker, on rising to move the address in reply to the speech from the throne, permit me first to make reference to the one matter that has been uppermost in the hearts and minds of all British subjects—I refer to the recent illness of His Majesty, our beloved sovereign, King George V. Not alone throughout the length and breadth of the great empire was concern manifest and interest shown, but wherever altar fires are kindled, irrespective of race, creed or language, prayers were made that he might be spared to his people—to be their sovereign for many years to come. The recent trying experience of His Majesty, and the anxiety it caused in the hearts of his subjects, has served to emphasize the important place he now occupies as head of a great commonwealth of nations, and as an important factor in strengthening those bonds of a common allegiance to the crown. The empire is justly proud and rejoices in the splendid response made by the Prince of Wales, on this occasion of his father's illness, to the new duties and responsibilities that have been suddenly placed upon him.

The county of Oxford was honoured in the late fall of last year by a visit from His Excellency, Viscount Willingdon, the Governor General of Canada. His presence in Oxford, his kind and gracious manner, his keen interest in all that pertains to the welfare of that splendid county won for him the hearts of its people. Their hope is that he will find time in the near future to pay their county another visit and that on that occasion they will have the pleasure of welcoming, with him, Her Excellency, Viscountess Willingdon.

My constituency of South Oxford has been highly honoured in the selection of its representative to undertake this important and

time-honoured duty at the opening of parliament. I wish to convey to the Prime Minister and his government its appreciation of the courtesy thus shown.

Since the last session of parliament the Prime Minister has paid a visit to the motherland and to the continent. On his return "from wandering on a foreign strand" he expressed his love for and pride in Canada in these words, "Canada is the happiest of all lands." The Prime Minister in these words expressed his love and devotion to the country of his birth, and likewise faith and confidence in her future, the same love, confidence and faith that prompted to united action the Canadians of "sixty-seven."

The Prime Minister did honour to his native land during his sojourn in Europe, both at Paris and at Geneva. At the former capital he gave expression to the nation's desire that war should give way to peace, that international differences should be settled by sane and wise means, and that the great curse of the ages should be abolished. It was an historical event and marks a long forward step in the settlement of international problems. It is also manifest from the signing of the Kellogg pact that the British commonwealth, each unit for itself and for all the empire, is heart and soul for the cause of peace.

At Geneva, the Prime Minister and his colleagues made no small contribution to the deliberations and influence of the League of Nations. He was honoured with a vice-presidency of the assembly of the league. This is a well deserved honour to Canada, as likewise it is to the Prime Minister as a recognition, well deserved, of that prominent Canadian's efforts in behalf of world peace and understanding.

It is but fair to admit that the Prime Minister, both at the Imperial conference of 1926 and at Paris and Geneva in 1928, demonstrated thoroughgoing Canadianism and did much to increase the standing of his country and place her in a position that commands the respect and attention of the world.

The late Sir Wilfrid Laurier, with that confidence that characterized Canadian statesmen from the beginning was a true prophet when he stated that the twentieth century belonged to Canada. The voices of the criers of ruin have died out, enthusiasm and a new spirit pervades our people, a spirit of pride and achievement of great things. The Prince of Wales said some months ago:

Canada is on the threshold of one of the most astonishing eras of expansion and development that the world has ever known.