

I also feel that the time has come when legislation should be enacted to give legal status to Canadian nationality. This is all the more fitting and proper since, as a result of the wise leadership of our Prime Minister at the San Francisco Conference, Canada has emerged as a leader of the middle powers of the world.

The re-establishment in civilian life of the veterans of the war is perhaps the Government's most immediate responsibility. This task has been made even more urgent by the sudden termination of the conflict with Japan. However, as a result of the vision and foresight of the Government of the Right Honourable Mackenzie King, legislation already has been enacted and has received the almost unanimous approval of the veterans themselves. These enactments have been studied and discussed wherever veterans got together, and I have yet to meet one of them who would offer one word of criticism, even of a constructive nature. The problem is to get our boys home, and to place them either in employment or in a position to prepare themselves for employment as speedily as possible. Veterans realize, better than Canadians who have not been away from home, the excellence of Canada's price control regulations and how much they mean to all of us.

In closing may I say it is my opinion that to be good Canadians we must know one another and be conversant with one another's needs; ever ready and anxious to co-operate or to compromise, if necessary, in order successfully to solve our problems and retain our national unity.

Hon. VINCENT DUPUIS (Translation): Honourable senators, I wish at the outset to express my deep gratitude to the Government for having deigned to elevate me to the dignity of member of the highest tribunal in this country, and at the same time entrust me with the task, which is both most honourable and often perilous, of seconding the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

I dare hope that you will not judge me too harshly if, on account of my deficiency, I do not prove equal to the delicate task I have to perform. However, you may be sure of my sincerity and my impartiality.

In taking my seat for the first time in this august assembly, my thoughts naturally go to my family.

If my humble father and my beloved mother were still living, they, who saw me go forth on the King's highway and begin the struggle for life at the age of thirteen, would no doubt be pleased and proud of the success achieved by their twelfth son. I could then express to them my deep gratitude and

assure them that this success is due in large part to the lessons in courage and rectitude which they gave me through their advice and their examples.

Because I deeply feel the truth of what I have just said, I wish you to believe that I shall never be arrogant or unyielding with anyone, for I have always kept in my memory the words of a ballad my father taught me when I was young, in which a father gives wise advice to his child. He says to him among other things:

Too soon the years, disappointment and care,
Will come to furrow thy brow so fair.

Thy deeds may be writ in history's pages,
A pattern of glory for all future ages;
But bliss is not found in glory alone,
And he who lives happy lives often unknown.

Kindly forgive me if, for a moment, I have given way to the expression of personal feelings.

I should now like to offer my most heartfelt congratulations to the distinguished senator for Kootenay East (Hon. Mr. King) on his nomination as Speaker of this House. His long experience in public life in his province and in the dominion sphere, the high functions he has fulfilled with dignity, and latterly the supremely difficult task of leader of the Senate which he has discharged with perfect tactfulness and ability, lead us to anticipate that he will achieve comparatively easy success. He will thus follow the high traditions which his predecessors in the Chair have ever maintained, and among the latter I do not forget his immediate predecessor the honourable senator for Lorimier (Hon. Mr. Vien).

I also have the pleasant duty of tendering my sincere congratulations and my best wishes of success to the honourable senator for Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson) on his recent nomination as leader of this House. The sound judgment and the talent with which he performed his numerous duties both in business and in politics are a guarantee of the success he will undoubtedly achieve, as the Government's representative in this Chamber.

It is comforting that parliamentary usage allows me to pay a tribute of esteem and respect to the memory of my immediate predecessor as representative of the senatorial district of Rigaud, Honourable Arthur Sauvé. Experienced journalist, occasional writer, career politician, leader of his party in the Quebec legislature for several years, minister in the federal Cabinet, then senator, always imperturbably good-natured, Honourable Arthur Sauvé has left too deep an impression on the public life of his country for his fellow citizens and particularly his political friends to remember him with anything but the kindest thoughts.