

The Address—Mr. Nielsen

province, the province of Ontario and all the other provinces, as well as people of all nationalities, are all determined to work for the success of that great experiment which is the building-up of our country.

And now, having expressed the pleasure I derive from this occasion, I have the honour to move, seconded by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen):

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, C.H., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.

(Text):

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I first say how acutely aware I am of the honour which has been bestowed upon me, the people of the Yukon and the north in my being afforded this opportunity to second the address in reply to His Excellency's gracious speech from the throne and to tell you something of the Yukon's hopes and aspirations.

I should first like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your election to the high office which you occupy in this house. The people of the Yukon and I are grateful to the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) for being given this opportunity to dispel some of the misconceptions that are held about the north, particularly misconceptions born of such appearances as perhaps that of the hon. member for Mackenzie River (Mr. Hardie) who unfortunately is not here at the moment but who appeared in this august chamber today in native garb.

It is most appropriate at this time when Yukon is this year celebrating her gold rush jubilee that I am given this opportunity, for it was 60 years ago that the Yukon was in the middle of this nation's greatest gold rush in history. Sixty-two years ago this August 17 gold was first discovered near Dawson city. I would consider it a privilege, as I am sure would all Yukoners, to be host to as many hon. members of this house as would care to come to Yukon this summer to experience personally some of the wonders of the north.

The immediate history of the Yukon and indeed of all of northern Canada is that of mining. Its future is a mining future. As the

history of Canada has unfolded from the beginning of this century, great advances have been made in all phases of our nation's development. Our manufacturing industry has come into its own, particularly as a result of the demands placed upon it by world war II. At the outset of the century this industry was valued at one half billion dollars as contrasted with the situation today when it is valued at \$19½ billion. Agriculture in 1956 yielded a gross \$3½ billion and our industries based on forest products yielded \$2 billion last year. The metals industry yielded the same. Viewing this advance across Canada against a gross national product of \$37 billions gives us every justification for believing that the 20th century is indeed Canada's.

Canada has progressed in her development from the Cobalt days of silver to the discovery and development of this nation's vast hard rock and gold mining industry, with her copper and nickel in Ontario and Manitoba and her copper and iron ore in Quebec and Labrador, her base metals in British Columbia and fresh discoveries in New Brunswick, of silver in the Yukon, uranium in Ontario, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories and her infant oil industry rapidly growing in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan and even now advancing into the Yukon and Northwest Territories. More and more mineral discoveries are coming to light in the more northern areas of the provinces and within the last decade Canadians have often heard such names as Ungava, Cassiar, Moak lake, Rankin inlet, Uranium City, Beaverlodge, Calumet, Yukon, Yellowknife.

The Canadian mining industry is making prodigious advances and I cannot overemphasize the importance of all Canadians—particularly business and political leaders—taking a keen and personal interest in the welfare of this industry. Mining is by nature an industry of many problems and one that is most sensitive to political and world conditions. It is an industry which should at all times be encouraged for, in the not too distant future, Canada will take her place as the leading mining nation of the world.

Living as we do on the threshold of the space age the door is open to many new uses and an increased world demand for metals—metals which a few years ago were of secondary importance and which are now springing into the limelight, such as boron, uranium, molybdenum, titanium and lithium. These are now most sought after by prospectors. In the struggle to conquer outer