

*Canadian Flag*

**Mr. Churchill:** The same as the Guatamalan flag.

**Mr. Douglas:** I think they are rooted deep in the traditions of our country. It is said that when the fathers of confederation were meeting and trying to select a motto and a title for Canada there was a good deal of discussion. It will be recalled that Sir John A. Macdonald wanted to use the term "the kingdom of Canada", and it was Sir Leonard Tilley who, on reading the 72nd psalm, found his attention arrested by verse 8, which says:

He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth. He came to the meeting of the fathers of confederation on that day and made the suggestion that it should be called the dominion of Canada, and that we adopt the motto "A mari usque ad mare"—"From sea to sea". The term "dominion" has been dropped, but I would like to think that the idea has not. I would like to think that the two blue bars on our flag will have a deep significance for the people of Canada. Irrespective of what our religious affiliation may be, or even if we have no religious affiliation at all, I think that all of us agree that we would like to see this a land from sea to sea where certain moral and spiritual values will be supreme; that this would be a land where the things of the mind and the spirit will have priority over mere material progress or personal acquisition. I would like to think that those two bars on the flag will tell the world that we have placed a high value on things other than mere material aggrandizement.

There is a verse in the Bible to the effect that "the measure of a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things he possesseth." I think that is not only true of individuals; it is true also of nations. I do not think that Canada's greatness in the future will depend solely upon the height of its skyscrapers, or the size of its gold reserve, or the amount of its trade balance. I think that in the final analysis Canada's true greatness will depend upon the extent to which it is concerned about protecting and advancing the rights and the opportunities of even the humblest citizen within its borders.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this debate will not be unduly prolonged and that it will not cause animosity. I think we should do all in our power to keep from setting Canadian against Canadian at a time when a spirit of unity is needed as never before in our history. I hope that we can conduct the debate on this controversial issue calmly and with-

[Mr. Douglas.]

out rancour; and when we have made a decision I hope that we in this parliament and the people of Canada from coast to coast will join together under whatever flag we choose to help build a Canada that is strong, free and united.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Cariboo (Mr. Leboe).

**Mr. Choquette:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

I respect the feelings of the hon. member for Villeneuve but, last week you ordered the hon. member for St. Denis not to put up a flag in the house so that the great debate which is going on at present would not be turned into a spectacle.

Consequently, I respectfully request that you call the hon. member for Villeneuve to order and ask him to take down the flag he has on his desk, the same way you did for the hon. member for St. Denis.

[*Text*]

**Mr. Speaker:** I thank the hon. member for drawing this to my attention; I had not noticed it until now. Will the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette) take down the piece of bunting on his desk.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, with all due respect, the resolution under consideration has nothing to do with the flag I have before me. I brought the same flag to the house a fortnight ago, but it is not the one mentioned in this resolution.

I realize the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) just wanted to show off, as he always does both in his province and in this house in order to draw the attention of all hon. members to this flag. Therefore, I would ask you to bear with me, because I am supposed to speak after the hon. member for Cariboo (Mr. Leboe) and I shall deal with the resolution as it stands without referring to any others, unless I want to move an amendment to that effect, something which I shall decide then.

[*Text*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Notwithstanding the very interesting remarks, two wrongs do not make a right and if it was wrong for the hon. member for St. Denis to show a flag it is wrong for the hon. member for Villeneuve to show a flag. It is my duty as chairman and Speaker of the house to try to keep