

In order to achieve this, we must accept wholeheartedly the fact that both our founding ethnic groups have essential contributions to make to the future of Canada.

And about this equal partnership, we can conclude with Mr. Pearson that:

the government at the national level must be bilingual and bicultural, when that is necessary, to put French-speaking Canadians on the same footing as English-speaking Canadians. This is our national policy which must be based on the principles of co-operative federalism.

In truth, those who would force a monolithic unity upon us would not reinforce Canadian unity; they would weaken it and possibly succeed in destroying it. In stating this policy, in expressing these patriotic tenets, the leader of my party uttered unforgettable words. His was an historic gesture. Mr. Pearson, who taught history in his youth, is now making it.

In supporting the policies of the Prime Minister and of his colleagues, I know I am working for the complete fulfilment of our French culture side by side with the English-speaking culture, in all deference to other cultural groups.

Being myself a member of a minority, it is my bounden duty to be fair to all the other minority groups in this multi-racial mosaic that is our Canada.

The particular rights of those who have the same blood as I have in their veins—those rights sanctioned by the spirit of our Constitution and by three centuries of history—those rights, I repeat, will be best safeguarded by the maintenance of our Canadian country from coast to coast, in a rejuvenated confederation imbued with a more human and more brotherly spirit, in a unity based on the full respect of national traditions and ways of life of each of our ethnic groups. This unity in diversity presupposes a common desire on our part to maintain our federal union in the interest of all Canadians, in particular of French-speaking Canadians, living in Quebec or living outside the boundaries of our mother province.

During the first World War some people at the Quebec legislature tried to bring Confederation to an end. Opposing the Francœur motion, which asked for Quebec's withdrawal from Confederation, Sir Lomer Gouin concluded his speech on January 23, 1918, with the following words which I am bent on repeating, for they fully express my own feelings:

That our country may remain great, that our sons' hearts may remain full of hope, that we may bequeath to them our forefathers' heritage, we must fight with stout hearts under the passing storm, we must work without cease, without flinching, to develop and maintain the Canadian nation.

[Text]

On motion of Hon. Mr. Brooks, debate adjourned.

STANDING COMMITTEES

THIRD REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF SELECTION ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the third report of the Committee of Selection which was presented on Wednesday, January 19.

Hon. Arthur L. Beaubien moved the adoption of the report.

Report adopted.

APPOINTMENT

Leave having been given to revert to notices of motion:

Hon. Paul H. Bouffard, with leave of the Senate, moved:

That the senators mentioned in the third report of the Committee of Selection, as having been chosen to serve on the several standing committees during the present session, be and they are hereby appointed to form part of and constitute the several committees with which their respective names appear in said report, to inquire into and report upon such matters as may be referred to them from time to time, and that the Committee on Standing Orders be authorized to send for persons, papers and records whenever required.

Motion agreed to.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

MESSAGE TO COMMONS—SENATE MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Bouffard, with leave of the Senate, moved:

That a message be sent to the House of Commons by one of the Clerks at the Table to inform that house that the Honourable Senators Belisle, Cameron, Davies, Fergusson, Fournier (De-Lanauzière), Gladstone, Gouin Haig,