

The Address—Mr. Bater

proud of it. Personally, I think it is a beautiful memorial. Underneath the picture the wording in the advertisement is as follows:

Standing silently amid the tumult of the busy streets, the Ottawa war memorial is a tribute to those who gave their lives on the field of battle . . . day after day it stands as a silent reminder of Canadian valour and heroism . . . daily our busy lives surge back and forth with scarcely a thought for the disabled veterans, many suffering a lifetime of pain, but all struggling for existence in this world they fought to free from oppression.

The words which particularly appealed to me, Mr. Speaker, were: "but all struggling for existence". Surely those men are entitled to more than a bare existence. That is one of the reasons why I rose in my place this afternoon to appeal to the government to do something now—for I believe it could be done—for these men who are recipients of war veterans allowance. Do not wait until next session or until next year, 1952. With this cold, hard winter before us, these men need this help now; and I think it is unfair, unjust and unnecessary to defer action at this time. There is still plenty of time during this session; and I believe that some legislation can be enacted or that something can be done by the government so that these men will be placed in the position in which I feel they should be placed.

Mr. A. J. Bater (The Battlefords): Mr. Speaker, in joining in this debate for just a few minutes this afternoon, I should like at the outset to express my pleasure in associating with other hon. members who have expressed gratification with regard to the reports we get of the improvement in His Majesty's health. I should also like to join with others who have spoken about the visit of Her Royal Highness and the Duke of Edinburgh. In connection with their trip throughout our land, I should like to pay tribute to the radio, to the camera men and also to the press. Had it not been for the radio, the films and the press there are hundreds of thousands of our people who would not have had such a good opportunity to see Her Royal Highness and the Duke of Edinburgh, to hear their voices or to read what they said. I wish to compliment these organizations for the grand job they did in connection with the tour.

Their Royal Highnesses made a short trip across the line into the country of our great neighbour, and visited the President of the United States. On their short visit they took time out to journey out to Mount Vernon and to Arlington cemetery, to lay a wreath upon the tomb of George Washington and the Unknown American Soldier. I would say

that, on that trip, they were truly common-wealth ambassadors of good will and understanding.

I should like to associate myself with those who have congratulated the mover (Mr. Cauchon) and the seconder (Mr. Simmons) of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, with which I am quite in accord. The mover covered considerable territory, and I was in agreement with him in his remarks about the great role played by our Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) in bringing about the relations existing within our nation and also the great effort he has made to bring about international peace.

The seconder of the motion, the hon. member for Yukon-Mackenzie River (Mr. Simmons), in a splendid way described the north country, which he so ably represents. In the interval between the two sessions I was privileged to attend the official opening of the St. Mary dam, which is some thirty-five or forty miles south of Lethbridge. The dam was officially opened by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner). On that occasion I was pleased to meet a few people from eastern Canada. I will mention two or three of them: Mr. McCubbin, the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture; Mr. McLean, president of Canada Packers; and Mr. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. I think it looked well when these men took such a great interest in that project that they would journey out to witness the official opening.

Speaking of the St. Mary dam of course recalls to my mind the South Saskatchewan dam, the opening of which I hope I shall have the privilege of attending in the near future. The mover of the address in reply mentioned that project. I would suggest that all members of this house and all members of all governments at all levels in Canada look at these projects—the St. Lawrence seaway, the Canso bridge, the South Saskatchewan project and any others that might be contemplated—not through the dim glasses of sectionalism or provincialism but through the brighter lenses of nationalism.

I should like to say a word or two in connection with something that has given us in western Canada a great deal of concern in the past few months. I refer to grain storage. The system of harvesting in western Canada, and particularly in Saskatchewan, is different from what it used to be. Because of the shortage of farm labour and the bringing in of the swather and the combine, the system of harvesting our crops has undergone quite a transformation. I think it is here to stay for quite some time. With this new method of harvesting has come about con-