

*Canada and the War*

has been done in our behalf, I trust that on this fateful day we shall not allow ourselves to be lulled into complacency with respect to the things that are ahead. Not only must we win this war; we must win the peace, and the foundation of that peace must be laid right here in this parliament, this year.

I am sorry to have to say, and I trust it will not mar the spirit of this occasion, that up to the present time there has not been one single, solitary fundamental principle laid down by which the reorganization of a sound and safe world may be undertaken. The all-important problem for the Dominion of Canada, as for the world as a whole, is to learn how to distribute goods both within this country and among the nations. Until the Prime Minister can stand in his place and tell us that this problem has been solved, that the principle upon which the solution depends has been discovered and that he will adopt that principle, most of his beautiful speeches will remain just beautiful speeches.

The men are doing their share. On many occasions I have expressed reverence for the youth of this land; they have conducted themselves magnificently. I am not going into details to show how little right we had to expect the glorious achievements that our boys have brought about, but in spite of the handicaps under which they were placed they have achieved greatly, and an everlasting tribute of gratitude is due from all the people to the youth who have risen to such heights. My only concern, Mr. Speaker, is as to whether or not the men at home are to be worthy of the youth who have gone to fight our battles, or whether they are to betray those youths when they return, as they have already betrayed them into war.

Canada can contribute a glorious share to the future of the world. The important question is whether she will do so, or whether, when this war is over, she will plunge into fierce commercial rivalry. Is Canada preparing to-day to engage in genuine cooperation, or is she preparing for commercial rivalry? That question should be answered; and if the answer is that she is looking forward to commercial rivalry, then on this Dominion day we are far from having attained the degree of perfection which we should have attained.

There is great hope for the future. When the war broke out I said we must not expect to be destroyed. There is a splendid future in store for us if we are but wise enough to know how to enter into the promised land. If we cooperate with the members of the British commonwealth of nations as we could and should, we can build

a greater and stronger commonwealth and empire than has ever been dreamed of during its long history. If we do not cooperate, we shall be on the way downward with respect to the empire. If Canada and the members of the commonwealth and the United States can learn to cooperate as they should, then we can assure the world freedom from war in our own right, as an Anglo-Saxon race associated with the friends who are within our gates. The question for us to ask ourselves is whether we are to discover the principle upon which true cooperation is based.

May I, sir, join with those who have already expressed solemn gratitude to the boys and girls who have gone forth to fight this war, to defend the principles of freedom, to defend us and all that we hold dear. May I join also in the note of reverence with which the Prime Minister concluded his remarks. I feel that we should be filled with the deepest thanksgiving to-day to the God of our fathers who has thus far guided our destinies through this dreadful conflict and given us the hope which we are now able to enjoy. In these two respects I wish to join with those who have already spoken, in expressing profound gratitude and thanksgiving on this Dominion day.

Hon. LOUIS S. ST. LAURENT (Minister of Justice) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, may I also, as a Canadian who is proud of a title which befits all of us, of whatever racial extraction, be permitted to add just one word?

This is the anniversary of the birth of the Canadian confederation and on this occasion I deem it appropriate—and I am sure all hon. members of this house have the same feeling—to emphasize that the term "Canadian" applies to the citizens of a nation whose parliament is bilingual.

I shall not attempt to summarize again in French the events which have marked the last four anniversaries of our confederation. If I refrain from doing so, it is for the simple reason that both languages are official, and because what is said in one language does not need to be repeated in the other language; it is said to all. I wish particularly to associate myself with the noble statement made by the right hon. the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) to the effect that our young nation intends to fulfil ever proudly her part as a member of the united nations, everywhere recognized as a full grown, important and *sui juris* member of the family of those great nations which are to-day united in defence of liberty and Christian civilization, which constitute the most treasured heritage of each of them.