

it is even more difficult to find the red flag bearing the Canadian emblem. The people in those countries do not know anything about it, and the Canadian coat of arms on the fly does not mean anything to them. Of course, many Canadians do not know about it, but the whole thing is completely misunderstood by people abroad. If they do happen to understand it they usually say "Oh, well, you are under Great Britain. You are a colony of Great Britain." That is not good enough in the present day.

We all know that wonderful Canadian song:

In days of yore, from Britain's shore,
Wolfe the dauntless hero came,
And planted firm Britannia's flag
On Canada's fair domain.

He planted Britannia's flag; he did not plant the Canadian flag. The flag that he planted has been with us for a long time, and I think that we have now grown old enough to have a flag of our own.

The Red Ensign is, after all, a mercantile flag. The Union Jack is the real flag of Britain, and I know that the proposal to fly it as the Commonwealth flag will please many people in Nova Scotia, because they fly it now.

Much has been said about the imposition of the closure rule in the House of Commons. Mr. Howe invoked closure in 1957, and there was much said about it. There is not much said about it today because the pipe line was built, and is still operating. Mr. Howe was a businessman. Perhaps he went a little too fast, but I think it would be a good thing if we had Mr. Howe with us today because he was a great Canadian who did a great job for this country.

Honourable senators must agree, after the long debate in the House of Commons, that people were getting discontented with the fact that it seemed to be going on endlessly. Now that it is all over I think that there is a better feeling in the country. Moreover, Nova Scotia has a flag of its own. It is an emblem of which the Scottish people especially are very proud. I read in the press the other day that the Premier of Manitoba is going to propose a flag for that province, and will bring it up at the next session of the legislature.

The three maple leaves are on the escutcheons of Quebec and Ontario. One morning I came out of the Lutheran church which is near the Garden of the Provinces, and I said to the minister, "Let us go down and look at the flag of Quebec." He sent one of the young men down to look at it, and then said: "Well, that is Quebec's coat of arms, on which they have the three maple leaves." Ontario's coat of arms also has the three maple leaves.

It seems to me that the maple leaf is the real emblem of this country.

The maple is a fine tree. It seems to me that when we are talking of selecting a flag we must acknowledge the fact that we are not going to select one that suits everybody. I have never known of any reform that did not cause some friction. If a reform did not cause friction, then it was not much of a reform. In my part of the country people say: "A little rough water doesn't hurt a good ship." It brings out the merits. Let us have a little rough water with respect to this new flag, but let us be sure that we are right. If we are right then time will cure all the troubles.

The idea that we should not have this flag is wrong. We are not hurting anybody in having a flag of our own. The maple leaf flag is a distinctive flag, and a flag should be distinctive. It is a flag that is easily interpreted. The maple leaf is an emblem that the world knows about through the activities of our country in war and in sports. We could not get a better emblem.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: Is this a sales talk?

Hon. Mr. Kinley: I was opposed to this flag for quite some time, but after I had heard the speeches and had really thought about it I came around to the belief that this is the right thing to do, and we should do it. I hope that we shall pass this resolution. I hope that we shall all learn to love this flag. To love a flag, honourable senators, you must be acquainted with it. You must have it with you for a time. It must not be thought that all at once it will be embraced like the old flag.

Honourable senators, this flag is emblematic of the changing world. Canada is changing, as the world is changing. It is sad to think of what happened at the last Commonwealth Conference of Prime Ministers when our good friends, the South African people, who are splendid, God-fearing people, and who were in dire danger, were eliminated from the Commonwealth. Many people in this country did not like it. But we are learning. In the Congo we learned a lesson. We learned that the old friends are the best friends, and I think that in the future we should be more careful.

The Constitution of the United Nations says that no one country shall interfere in the internal affairs of another country. In South Africa the people must be able to live in safety in the country that they have made and which they regard so highly. They have made a nation for themselves—a nation that is one of the best in the world.