

its great credit that it has ensured us one hundred years of continued and tremendous progress as a country made up of two cultures, each with its own particular spirit and way of life.

For the millions of men and women who have left foreign countries to settle in Canada since 1867, our country has really proved to be a new land, because of its freedom, its opportunities and its promises.

Confederation succeeded in uniting three of four racial and political groups, some of which had been unrelenting enemies until then. They came to the conclusion that they had to live together and that they needed a framework, in which they would find their proper place. Being aware that we were part of a whole, they realized that no individual, no municipality, no county, no province could usefully contribute to the well-being of Canada as a whole, through seeking by sheer force, as individuals, the solution to local problems. That was the good side of it: the magnitude and the vision of its future.

It was sound judgment, I believe, on the part of Sir Wilfrid Laurier who, like the Right Honourable Louis St-Laurent, was from the Eastern Townships and the Wellington division, which I have the honour to represent here today, to say the following in 1889, as regards Confederation:

When Confederation was established, it was not meant to be founded upon the humiliation of any race whatsoever. It was not contended that any race whatsoever had to sacrifice its own character, but it was hoped that while maintaining its individuality, each nationality would contribute with all others to the formation of one nation. It is in that same spirit and in accordance with the principle laid down at the time of Confederation, that there should be many provinces, that there should be a division, but at the same time a union of all.

We, Canadians of today, in the light of the achievements of the past, will be in a better position to foresee what to do in the years to come in order that the second centennial of our country, which will be celebrated by our descendants, will see a stronger and more united Canada, made greater through daring accomplishments and composed of prosperous and developed provinces eager to ensure the welfare of each and every one of their citizens.

They say the population will double approximately every 33 years. It will have reached 40 million around the year 2000, 80 million around the year 2034 and more than 150 million for the celebration of our second centenary in 2067. The stimulus to our economy will enable our nation and our provinces to envisage undreamed of achievements.

The Speech from the Throne mentioned that achievement which Expo 67 is. I should now like to say a few words on the subject. At the opening of Expo, last April 27, the right honourable Prime Minister said:

Our country can only exist inasmuch as unity of thought and action in the diversity of linguistic, cultural and social origins can be achieved.

As for His Excellency Mr. Pierre Dupuy, General Commissioner of Expo, this is how he ended his speech on the same occasion:

We have tried to reassure man, to make him understand his role, however small it may be, by showing him that the things which divide his fellowmen are less important than those which unite them.

His Worship the Mayor of Montreal, Mr. Jean Drapeau, said:

Great nations are formed in continuity.

Honourable Daniel Johnson, Premier of the Province of Quebec, expressed the wish that young people may emerge from this experience better prepared to play their part as citizens of the world.

A young nation of some 20 million was offering to the whole world a unique example of what can be accomplished through collective work and effort, of what had just been achieved through unity of action and purpose. I have never been so proud, as a Canadian, to see the flags of the most important nations in the world raised one after the other, at the call of the name of the nation, and to see at last our Canadian flag flying with dignity beside those of the great nations of the world.

I have been, as all of you I am sure, deeply moved when the band buoyantly and with feeling, broke into our national anthem officially recognized at last. Before this magnificent and significant spectacle, we, from all the corners of the earth, rejoiced together at the sight, it must now be admitted, of this marvel of our century.

Like many others, I felt it was a stirring appeal for a renewal of our Canadian patriotism. How happy we would be to see that