

tioned individuals, a man whose life was Parliament and whose Government significantly advanced the cause of freedom and prosperity for all Canadians.

I ask that Members of Parliament join with me on this motion requesting that a statue on Parliament Hill be commissioned forthwith in rightful honour of Canada's thirteenth Prime Minister, the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. Browes: John Diefenbaker was Prime Minister at a time when Canada was on the threshold of emerging greatness. His initiatives were the force which propelled Canada to that greatness. His inspiration was a vision of Canada unique to the times: an understanding that Canada's strength lay in her richness of land and resources.

Among some Diefenbaker initiatives were the construction of the South Saskatchewan dam, the development of hydro-electric power in the maritime provinces, massive sales of wheat to China, and the introduction of the Roads to Resources Program designed to open new regions for the development of mineral and energy resources.

Prime Minister Diefenbaker reached the pinnacle of his career with the introduction and passage of the Canadian Bill of Rights in 1960. For the first time, a written statute set out the fundamental freedoms and rights of individual Canadians which must be respected under federal law. It was a crowning piece of legislation, the quality of which was an indication of the magnitude of the pride and dedication to duty of this late great man.

A mere listing of accomplishments, however distinguished they may be, is not an adequate indication of the significant force John Diefenbaker exerted over the collective character of all Canadians. It was the man's oratory, the power of his words, which captivated the imagination of the people of Canada and earned the respect of parliamentarians in this great Chamber. His words and speeches revealed great pride and strength of spirit.

Mr. Diefenbaker once said that there were three speeches of which he was particularly proud. The first was his denunciation in Parliament of the internment of Canadians of Japanese descent during the Second World War, in which he thundered:

There are no hyphenated Canadians!

The second of these was his speech made at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, in 1957, in which he outlined the greater issues of Anglo-Canadian-American relations. The third was his address to the United Nations General Assembly in 1960 in which he demanded freedom for Russian satellite countries in eastern Europe which were subjugated by the Soviets.

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It is a telling measure of Mr. Diefenbaker that he claimed these three speeches to be his most memorable. He was a man for whom principle stood ahead of all else. He was a national

Right Hon. John G. Diefenbaker

leader for whom key international issues were the yardstick of Canada's emergent stature in the world.

Dozens of notable quotations exist which give further evidence of the extraordinary character of this unique Canadian leader. "We have an appointment with destiny", he often declared in speeches during the 1957 election campaign. With this simple phrase, John Diefenbaker expressed his optimistic vision for Canada, as well as his own personal vision, to become Prime Minister and lead Canada to that destiny.

"There are more votes on Main Street than Bay Street!", was his rallying cry during the 1958 general election. It was John Diefenbaker's reminder that the interests of everyday Canadians should be a politician's first consideration.

He said:

Bilingualism and biculturalism are facts of Canadian life that cannot—and should not—be hidden or avoided.

John Diefenbaker wrote that in 1964 with the sincerity and wisdom of a man who had served as Prime Minister of all Canadians, of all regions and of all provinces.

"I don't campaign, I just visit with the people", John Diefenbaker declared in 1965, reflecting the ease of manner by which he met and spoke with Canadians during his travels.

There are many more quotations, among which the following portray John Diefenbaker at his most basic and revealing self:

"The secret of freedom is a brave heart." It was true when Pericles uttered those words and it is true today.

Parliament is a place honoured by tradition and hallowed by the greatness of its history.

My basic social philosophy is that governments should not forget the average man and woman.

I stand today as I have always stood, for principle: Freedom and equality for all Canadians, however humble their lot in life, and whatever their racial origin. One Canada, One Nation.

Finally, from a speech in reference to the Bill of Rights, delivered in the House of Commons on July 1, 1960, the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker intoned:

I am a Canadian, a free Canadian, free to speak without fear, free to worship God in my own way, free to stand for what I think right, free to oppose what I believe wrong, free to choose those who shall govern my country. This heritage of freedom I pledge to uphold for myself and mankind.

It is fitting that these particular words should echo once more off the stone walls and high ceilings of this House of Commons. John Diefenbaker lived for this House, and he lived for the principles I have just quoted.

If his benevolent spirit should still occupy this Chamber, let it bear witness that this Thirty-Third Parliament of Canada did act to immortalize in bronze the living image of our thirteenth Prime Minister, the Late Right Hon. John George Diefenbaker.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has proposed a very interesting motion. In fact, there are statues of a number of our Prime Ministers on or near