

of the billion dollars we needed came from the United States. One can understand why the Honourable the Minister of Finance is asking Canadians for their savings. It is absolutely necessary for us to take a larger share in the development of our own economy. Why lack confidence in our future when foreigners do not hesitate to invest millions and millions of dollars here?

With these reserves, we are justified in being optimistic. During his speech at the yearly meeting of the shareholders the Chairman and President of the Royal Bank of Canada said this:

I believe that Canadians have the courage demanded by the march of events in the 1960's and the will to achieve the even richer promise of decades still to come. With our material blessings, these qualities are all we need to make Canada a leader and an example to all the eager young countries—in Latin America, in Africa, in Asia—which even now are, like us, striving to meet the great problems, and to achieve the even greater rewards, of a sustained, balanced, healthy economic growth in a tough, competitive world, but, let us fervently hope, an essentially peaceful economy of nations.

Among the innovations announced by the Speech from the Throne there is "the establishment of a new department concerned with affairs relating to the forests of Canada and their most effective utilization and conservation and to assume responsibility for other related resources."

Canadians will be gratified over such a decision. Let us not forget that almost half the land of Canada is still covered by forests. Let us not forget that our forests provide one eighth of our national income. Do we often realize that the trade in wood and wood products, newsprint especially, accounts for one third of our exports?

Many industries are dependent on forests, pulp, paper, and lumber being the main ones. In the House of Commons I used to represent the riding of Labelle, which, if I may be allowed to use such an expression, derives its livelihood from the forest. Therefore, I am quite familiar with this matter and I can assure you that the government's decision to establish a new department is a most timely one. The problem of forest conservation is very important and research in this field should be intensified. Research work will help to discover new products and by-products, the manufacturing and the trade of which will be a valuable contribution to the general prosperity of our country.

The province of Quebec, in particular, will look favourably upon any steps which may be taken by the federal Government, within

the limits of its jurisdiction, in order to protect our forests and to promote their rational and profitable development. Quebec ranks first in Canada in regard to the production of pulp and paper, as well as in regard to the value of her forests and water resources which, as everyone knows, are essential to the logging industry. According to the figures supplied by the minister of Lands and Forests of that province last November, the logging industry has paid in 1958 over 250 million dollars in wages in Quebec, while the production of forest products exceeded 650 million dollars.

The creation of this new department is due to the initiative of our great Prime Minister, the Right Honourable J. G. Diefenbaker, who has made it part of his program. It will enable us to take care of the resources given us by Providence and to supply the logging industry of Canada with the scientific data it requires.

Honourable senators, I have asked for your indulgence and you have been kind enough to grant my request. Within my modest means, I shall endeavour to work for the greatness and the prosperity of our beautiful country, and for good will between the two leading races. Let us give our beloved country a truly Canadian soul which will result from the union of two philosophies, two religions, two cultures, two languages and two turns of mind. For our part, let us co-operate, and let our English-speaking fellow-countrymen do likewise, and I trust there will always be mutual respect and comprehension.

I shall conclude by quoting one of my illustrious predecessors in this house, Sir Thomas Chapais, who said:

Let us have this union which is based fundamentally on justice, tolerance and liberty; justice which protects all our citizens and has only one law for minorities and majorities alike; tolerance which teaches mutual respect of national convictions and customs; liberty which guarantees to each the free exercise of his civil, political and religious rights.

Such union would make of Canada, honourable senators, a happy, prosperous and glorious country, a country—and here I paraphrase the words of Sir Thomas Chapais—preserved not by the governors or the statesmen, or by great men alone, but by the Canadian people. Our people have kindled the flame that is Canada's and have made it even more brilliant for us; we too shall pass on and shall leave this vale of tears, but Canada will remain, your Canada, our Canada.

Honourable senators, I have the honour to move the Address to His Excellency, the Governor General, in reply to the Speech from the Throne.