

that both young and older people will have an opportunity to become self-respecting citizens.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, and the house for the courtesy in giving me these extra few minutes.

Hon. H. A. STEWART (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Heaps), who has just taken his seat, always makes a useful contribution to the debates of this house, and this occasion is no exception. He has brought forward the subject of immigration and the kindred subject of some haven for refugees. The absence from the speech from the throne of any statement whatever in connection with a matter of such importance to this country as immigration is, I think, a fair matter for comment. Of course the subject presents a contentious and difficult question. There can be no doubt, however, that the immigration policy followed, we will say, from 1925 to 1930 contributed in very large measure to the serious problem of unemployment we found in this country in 1930. There can be no doubt, further, that there is room in Canada for a class of selected immigrants who will be able to make their own way, who will be able to sustain themselves and contribute to the solution of the problems of this country.

The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne affords members of this house an opportunity for general discussion of the problems of Canada and of conditions as they find them in their constituencies. It provides an opportunity to advance suggestions for improvement as well as to offer criticism of the policies of the government, and gives the individual member a chance to bring to the attention of the house and of the government local conditions and problems in his own constituency or locality. Before discussing the speech from the throne, the address in reply, the amendment and the subamendment thereto, I desire to deal briefly with a matter of importance to the constituency and that part of the dominion from which I come. I have referred to it on previous occasions. It is not a matter of purely local importance, but one of wider significance.

Last August the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States united in a very interesting ceremony in connection with the formal opening of an international bridge. Prior to the ceremony which took place at the bridge itself an honorary degree had been conferred upon the president by Queen's university, and on that occasion interesting addresses were delivered by the president and the prime minister. The occasion was one of unusual importance. Expressions

[Mr. Heaps.]

of friendship and goodwill were mutual, and the president took advantage of the opportunity to make a declaration of policy on behalf of the United States which was in advance of anything which had been stated previously in that connection. I heard the president say that the United States would not stand idly by and see any alien or foreign force invade the soil of Canada. It was an expression of goodwill which was appreciated, and it was acknowledged by the prime minister.

The bridge, the occasion for the ceremony, crosses the St. Lawrence river through the heart of the Thousand islands. It is not an ordinary bridge but is unique in that it consists of a series of bridges, there being a distance of about six miles between one bridgehead and the other. Use has been made of the islands in the intervening spaces.

Since the opening of the bridge nearly 100,000 motor cars have passed over it. At the date of opening the roadways were not complete; in fact they are not yet entirely completed. It has been said, and I think truthfully, that within a radius of three hundred miles from the bridge live one-third of the population of Canada and one-fourth of the population of the United States. This is a striking statement, and I make it simply to show the possibilities in the development of tourist traffic at this point. The amount of traffic has been beyond expectations, and is capable of great development.

The suggestion has been made that a national park should be established at the bridgehead on the Canadian side. Local committees have been set up to promote this undertaking. From time to time representations have been made. We are told the general policy of the dominion with respect to parks is that the province must acquire the land and turn it over to the dominion, and the dominion assumes responsibility for maintenance and development. There are however a few exceptions to the practice—perhaps not many. In some cases the dominion has acquired directly, either by expropriation or through purchase, certain lands for park purposes, as shown by a return brought down last session following the adoption of a motion I placed on the order paper.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), the Minister of Labour (Mr. Rogers) and the Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. Crerar) are thoroughly familiar with the conditions in the area I have mentioned. They have all visited it, and have information on the subject. A local committee has been formed, of which Mr. J. G. Mitchell,