

The Address—Mrs. Casselman

Royal Bank of Canada, paid to the government in general and to the Minister of Finance in particular, a tribute which is worth noting. Mr. Muir stated, in effect, that the government policy in the matter of credit and money availability was in keeping with the facts and with our actual needs, and that it was exactly the right answer to our present difficulties. He thus publicly endorsed the measures taken by the hon. Minister of Finance and thus supported, with all the authority of a distinguished financier, the general policy of our government. That should be enough to reassure us as to the future and, especially, to put back in their places members of the opposition who had set themselves up as economists and financiers.

Those facts, Mr. Speaker, I repeat, inspire a wholesome confidence. And it is on the basis of those facts that I move, seconded by the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas (Mrs. Casselman):

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Right Honourable Georges Vanier, Governor General:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.

(Text):

Mrs. Jean Casselman (Grenville-Dundas):

Mr. Speaker, may I be the first to congratulate the hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Morissette) for the very able manner in which he fulfilled the honour given him this afternoon.

May I extend to you, Mr. Speaker, the pleasure felt by the house in seeing you returned to your seat of honour and dignity in such good health after your strenuous travels. We followed you with interest and we thank you for the friendship and understanding you earned for Canada.

May I extend, too, my warmest and heartiest congratulations to your newly appointed deputy, the popular hon. member for Quebec South (Mr. Flynn).

We are fortunate that all hon. members of this house have returned and may the coming months not weigh too heavily upon the good health which the members of the cabinet, the leaders of the opposition and all hon. members appear to enjoy today.

We are fortunate that the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) and his charming wife enjoy excellent health and are especially

endowed with a sense of duty which enables them to bear their onerous positions with such efficiency, grace and warmth.

We extend a warm welcome to the new members, the hon. member for Hastings-Frontenac (Mr. Webb) and the hon. member for Russell (Mr. Tardif) who were introduced yesterday. May their work here be rewarding.

All of Canada has been saddened since we left here last July by the loss of two very great Canadian personalities. We extend our deepest sympathy to the people of the province of Quebec on the tragedy they have suffered and we extend warm and sincere wishes for good health and success to the new premier of that province.

I wish to warmly thank the Prime Minister for his confidence in inviting me to second the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I am fully conscious of the advantageous position he has given me from which to make my maiden speech. The two counties that I represent have shown a unique loyalty to the person of the Prime Minister, to the party he represents and to the government of Canada. On their behalf I gratefully and respectfully acknowledge this honour.

The counties of Grenville and Dundas were settled nearly 200 years ago by a combination of British, Dutch and German pioneers. Nearby were French speaking settlements and in the early rigours of physical hardships and the first problems of government and education those groups learned to respect one another, to like one another and the absolute necessity of unity for their very existence. We, therefore, join with all Canadians in rejoicing at the degree of unity we have achieved in this country amongst all classes, creeds and races of our people and between the federal and provincial governments. Those admirable characteristics of our people were displayed in the last five years when they accepted the disruptions and the changes brought about by the astonishing St. Lawrence seaway development. They overcame daily irritations and considerable heartache to adopt a forward looking and enthusiastic realization of what this would mean to Canadian development.

As you travel through the county of Dundas—and I hope that those of you who have not done so will be doing so in the near future—you will see homes and buildings that are now pictured in volumes of Canadian history. In those historic buildings live some of the most modern thinking Canadians. We have preserved the best of the past and we are always looking for the best of the future.