

of minorities, without which Confederation in 1867 would have been impossible, should now be amplified and more clearly defined in the light of experience in the past years and the needs of the present.

One needs to say little more on this subject at this time, but the importance of doing all that is possible here to encourage an increasingly active interest and participation of the Canadian electorate in the operations of Parliament cannot be stressed too strongly.

In this connection may I quote from a speech by the late Senator Meighen while he was the Leader of the Government in this chamber. These are his words, as embodied in the Senate records:

Some time ago a prominent and popular Canadian remarked to me: "I am thankful in these days for the Senate! No matter what wild and extreme radicalism may sweep the country, the Senate will stand firm; it will save the ship".

He then continued:

The forces of wild and extreme radicalism must be met right out among the ranks of our people, in their houses and meeting places—there the power of reason and common sense must be applied, the lesson of long experience must be taught, or nothing will save the ship. Surely we have learned from tragedies in other lands that the tide of a mad, militant and persistent majority never can be stemmed. It must not become a majority. What the Senate can do is to devote its energy within its own sphere to making laws practical and sensible, to give the best possible chance to workers and especially to the humblest workers to encourage the upward climber and to attach a wholesome penalty to voluntary idleness, to remember always that there is nothing so vital to the common weal as security to life and property, and to offer no countenance to dishonesty and confiscation.

The second selection from the gracious speech that I had intended to deal with at some length has to do with references to the European Common Market and commonwealth trade. However, I have decided to defer much of what might be said on this subject until a definite conclusion is reached to all the discussions that are now going on abroad. Unless the dark clouds that now hover over Berlin can be dissipated and the danger of another war averted, all the official talk and argument about the European Common Market and a new federation of western Europe could be wiped out for an indefinite period, and possibly forever. If that dire development does not intervene, a complete rearrangement of western Europe, including

Great Britain, as envisaged in the Treaty of Rome adopted some seven years ago, would seem to be assured.

There are two important aspects to this Common Market movement: one relates vitally to the trade of the world; and the other, which has been sponsored mainly by Mr. Spaak of Belgium and Mr. van Zeeland of Holland, has been for a federation of Europe to secure protection for those countries from the intervention and approach of Russia from the east. I think the outcome of these discussions that are now taking place in Brussels will be of vital importance to us all. Their outcome will affect the economy, not only of this country and the United States but of every other part of the world as well. The economic effects of such a possibility have only lately seemed to loom up as a threat to Canada and the United States. But it is interesting to note that in 1959, in this chamber, the far-reaching competitive aspect of this development in Europe was discussed in connection with a resolution introduced by our honourable colleague, the senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson). I regret that ill health prevents his being here now, so that he might have the satisfaction of seeing that the notice he gave then has materialized into real concern on the part of the governments of Canada and the United States. I am not aware that much of what was publicly stated in this chamber at that time was seriously heeded either in the other house or outside by the Canadian community as a whole. The reports of *Hansard* in March, 1959, however, do show that members of this body did explore the subject then.

For the time being I feel that one is justified in awaiting rather than anticipating the contents of this modern Pandora's box which has been presented to us in the form of the Speech from the Throne.

Hon. M. Wallace McCutcheon: Honourable senators, first may I follow the gracious custom which has been followed by my predecessors in speaking on this address, and extend to you, Mr. Speaker, my sincere congratulations on your appointment to the high office which you now hold. I would also extend my congratulations to my leader, the honourable senator from Royal (Hon. Mr. Brooks). Anyone who heard his address last night on the Throne Speech debate would have no doubts that he will uphold the traditions of the Leader of the Government in this chamber.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to the mover and seconder of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne and to compliment them, particularly on their facility in both languages, a facility which, unfortunately, I do not possess.