

have provided a pattern for the modern development of the Commonwealth and of the many countries which now make up its membership.

I would go further today—though it may be anomalous to do so. As Canada has progressed in independence and self-reliance, the personal attachment of her people to the Queen's person has in fact grown stronger as reliance upon Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom has diminished. Her Majesty is in truth the Queen of our people.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): The attitudes of our people reflect this fact, but more especially is it reflected in the faces and in the voices of our little children, who are its best and its most objective witnesses.

(Translation):

Honourable senators, the visit which the Queen of Canada paid our country affords an opportunity to recall the motto of the province of Quebec: "Je me souviens". As soon as the British regime was established in Canada—under the very terms of the capitulation of Quebec and Montreal, under the Quebec Act of 1774 and under the British North America Act—our constitution recognized, without any reservation, certain fundamental rights to French-speaking Canadians. Those rights dealt with language, religion, civil code, customs, and education.

Let us recall first of all that such an arrangement was entirely foreign to the imperial policy of those days. Today, that policy has become steadfast and enlightened. It is enshrined in our constitutional documents and practice. It has been forcefully recognized in the speech delivered by Her Majesty in the Quebec legislature last Saturday. In effect, rights formerly called the fundamental rights of minorities are truly the guarantee of real equality between all Canadians.

At this milestone in our history, when so many of our traditional beliefs are subject to political debates, the statements of the Queen of Canada, who came among her people, emphasize not only those fundamental principles but establish also a link of admiration, affection and loyalty between all her Canadian subjects and their youthful, gracious and courageous Queen.

(Text):

Honourable senators, we are all conscious of the fact that there has been among us a gracious and beautiful young woman whose sincerity, whose dedication, and whose courage has touched the hearts of us all.

Hon. A. J. Brooks: Honourable senators, I deem it a great honour and privilege to be the seconder of this motion.

The idea of introducing a motion such as this before both Houses of Parliament was suggested in the House of Commons a few days ago, and it was debated briefly there at that time.

This morning, the House of Commons, with enthusiasm and sincerity, unanimously passed the Address, without debate. The members of the Commons are the elected representatives of the people of Canada, and therefore in passing the address that house expressed the sentiments of the people of Canada from coast to coast.

Honourable senators, it is fitting that we in the Senate, on our own behalf, should join in sending a message to Her Majesty. The Senate is a branch of Parliament, and although ours is not an elected body, the members of this house come from all parts of Canada and represent the people from all parts of the country.

I am sure that Her Majesty knows the general feeling of the people in Canada. I think she has the faculty of looking below the surface, and is able to see clearly what is in their hearts.

Her Majesty sent a message after she had left our shores, one paragraph of which I am sure indicates her understanding:

Please convey my warm thanks and those of my husband to the Prime Minister, Government and people of Canada for the kind and loyal welcome which they have given us.

His Excellency the Governor General replied for the people of Canada. I do not think it would be out of place for me to say here how proud we have been of the manner in which Their Excellencies, the Governor General and Madame Vanier, have performed their duties, not only on this but on every occasion since His Excellency became Her Majesty's representative in Canada. His message in part says:

The presence of Your Majesty and of His Royal Highness amongst us has strengthened our admiration and affection for, and pride in, Our Sovereign.

Those well chosen and, may I say, most appropriate words, express the feelings of Canadians, and I am sure that under ordinary circumstances they would have been sufficient.

I enjoyed the remarks of the Leader of the Government in the Senate, but I am not going to follow him in reciting the development of our great country since Confederation. That has been well done by him. Nor do I think it necessary to review the outstanding attributes and qualifications of Her Majesty as our Queen. She has, in full measure, all the queenly virtues people can expect and hope