

Two chivalrous nations only, England and France, each of them a champion of right and Christian civilization, fully aware of their duty—in spite of inadequate preparedness for war—did not hesitate to challenge the aggressors and to rush to the rescue of oppressed nations. They are now in danger of losing their ancient culture under the attacks of Vandals who have not the slightest respect for the principles on which life and liberty are based.

We, the sons of those gallant men, who have inherited the two great cultures that stand as bright beacons in the world, have felt a deep thrill of patriotism and national pride, and instinctively we have been eager to join them in the defence of those essential principles that are the heritage of free nations. We have done so cheerfully, knowing that we were fighting for international morals, for the sanctity of treaties, and for the preservation of our racial characteristics and our respective cultures.

To us, Canadians, this close co-operation between England and France, in the military as well as in the economic sphere, and this spiritual and intellectual union of those two great nations, are auspicious. They will make still closer the bonds that unite us. They will bring us closer together by enhancing the mutual respect that is so essential to national unity, and they will be a pledge of future peace not only for Canada, but for the whole world.

Along with concentrating all their efforts on the prosecution of war, the Government are not unmindful of the measures which may consolidate and improve our economic position. Experts are working unceasingly on such reorganization so that our normal life may not be too much disrupted by the present difficulties. The Government are moreover quite anxious to plan for the after-war period.

Measures have already been taken to provide for the re-establishment in normal life of those who were not afraid to endanger their very future in order to serve the cause of justice and prevent subversive ideas from finding their way into their hearts and making them followers of rampant Communism.

This war has also put an end to that selfishness which has manifested itself, until now, in certain provinces and threatened the existence of Confederation. A spirit of closer solidarity has been established between them and the Government, and the recommendations of the Sirois commission, charged with the study of the relations and spheres of activity of this Parliament and the provincial legislatures, will have to be considered in a spirit of justice and equity.

Hon. Mr. BLAIS.

I should not like to conclude these few remarks without paying a tribute to a great man who has passed away, Lord Tweedsmuir. While he was visiting Edmonton, I had the pleasure of listening to him and of admiring his high culture, which was equalled only by his modesty. He loved our country and endeavoured to visit it with the spirit of the discoverer. He travelled over every bit of it, even reaching the Arctic Ocean, sharing in the life of the trappers, the Indians and the Eskimos, and studying every detail of their rude and adventurous life, devoid of all comfort. He loved the long, warm twilights of our majestic lakes of Northern Alberta. He admired the grandeur and beauty of the Mackenzie with its variegated waters, at times still and at times tumultuous, with its high, abrupt banks, painted by the sun in countless hues. He loved the calm of our great lakes, which induced him to reverie and opened up to him new horizons.

He wrote to Lord Bessborough, at the end of March, that he had decided not to prolong his stay in Canada, because his delicate state of health forced him to return to England, and that he was preparing to make a farewell trip to the Western Provinces, for which he had a particular affection.

"My roots have gone down pretty deep in this beautiful country of Canada," he wrote, "and I have a melancholy feeling when travelling through it that I shall be very sorry to leave it." In fact, he was not to leave it, and to-day Canada mourns for him as for one of her beloved sons.

Honourable senators, this country has always been fortunate in the choice of the representatives of His Majesty, and we have learned with joy and pride of the coming of His Excellency Lord Athlone and his gracious consort, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice. They may be sure of finding everywhere in Canada a most hearty and eager welcome. Their nobility and their great distinction are for us the most precious evidence of Their Majesties' love for our beautiful country.

(Text) Honourable senators, may I now utter a few words in the language of the majority in this House? Permit me to say how proud I am of the great leader of the Liberal party, and how pleased I am to offer him my most sincere congratulations upon the greatest political victory that was ever won by any party in the history of Canada. It is a pleasure to note how the people of all the provinces stood by our leader in his respect for the Constitution, in his attitude on the question of war, and in the prosecution of the war effort of this country.

I am equally happy to congratulate the honourable leader of the Government in this