

towards them as were engendered during those youthful days. I conceive it to be the prime duty of any man, to whom the people of this country have entrusted their representation in this House, to endeavour at all times so to conduct and comport himself, so to speak on occasions of public importance which affect these two races, as to assist, if possible, in healing any hard feeling that exists and, if possible to bring about a greater measure of unity and harmony between the two races, so that the time will not be very far distant when, in Canada, speaking two languages, holding possibly largely two creeds, we shall have one united Canadianism, having, as its first and foremost purpose, the common betterment of our common country.

Mr. ALAN WEBSTER NEILL (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, we have had various expressions of compliment paid to yourself, to the leaders of the three parties in the House, to the mover and seconder of the Address, and to the lady member; and for the sake of brevity I will simply say that they have each and all my hearty concurrence. As regards the lady member, while I am heartily in sympathy with the remarks that have been made I think that, as time goes on, we shall be led to adopt a somewhat different attitude towards her. It is natural, perhaps, that coming into the House for the first time she should receive a peculiar welcome as the first member of her sex to be elected to this Parliament. As time goes on, however, the attitude which we shall assume in regard to her, and the attitude she herself will desire that we should bear towards her, will, I think, be to treat her as the member for Southeast Grey (Miss Macphail). We shall come to respect her ability, her keenness, her common sense, her energy and the persistence with which she will no doubt work to further the ambitions and the ideals which she entertains. That we shall do rather than pay deference merely to her femininity.

In looking over the House I have been struck by the peculiar, although natural, fact that the age and the appearance of the three parties are reflected in the individual members who respectively constitute them. Here on my right we have the men of substance, both as regards mentality and physique, of the Conservative party, men of gray hairs, the grave and reverend signors, whom we may regard for the moment at least as the statesmen of the past. Opposite, directly

behind the leader of the Government (Mr. Mackenzie King), we find identically the same type of men in that party—they may be regarded as the statesmen of to-day. But when we come to the third party, the gentlemen who sit on my left, we find that it is composed of, and very largely dominated by, young men. That party is a new one; it is young in the political life of the country, and perhaps it is natural to find that the men who constitute it are also young. To finish the simile, I may refer to them as the statesmen of the future. I do not suggest that it is a demerit in a man or a woman to be young. I was young once myself and wish I were again in my youth. We older men must remember that if we do not give way, at least we should make room for the younger generation. The youth of to-day constitute the driving force and the energy of to-morrow; they are the history makers of the future. I do not say for a moment that we should depreciate the respect we ought to show to hon. gentlemen whose hair is gray or, as in the case of some of us, whose hair is not only gray, but getting scant. We must realize, however, that the coming generation is forging ahead into our places, and we must make way for them or they will make way for themselves. I have great faith in youth,—youth in politics, youth in business and youth in everything. This is the day of the young man. The young men have faults; they are headstrong, impetuous, hasty, perhaps, in action, and impulsive; but they have that energy and driving power that make for progress and action, and it is progress and action we need more than anything else to-day in Canada.

I therefore look with confidence upon the party to the left of me. I would rather see the ship of state manned by young men, inexperienced though they may be, starting out boldly on the sea of life. The weather may be rough, and storms may arise, but they will make headway and get somewhere. At any rate, better that by far than trust our destinies to the ship of state lying in the stagnant waters of the harbour and mouldering away with the dry rot of policies of hesitation, vacillation and over-timid caution. For my part, give me men of action who will go into the middle of the stream and try to get somewhere. At all events, they will gain experience in time. I have noted with pleasure the ability shown by these young men on my left as speakers. With-