

*The Address—Mr. Trudeau*

the day when they will be able to share even some of this happiness.

But the Leader of the Official Opposition is nonetheless right when he says that Canadians expect a great deal from this Parliament, from this government. All members of the House and of the Senate are undoubtedly aware of the responsibility they have of not thwarting those expectations. And I can assure the Leader of the Official Opposition that we, on our side, are keenly aware of our responsibilities and that we will do everything we can so that the dangers that exist in all areas of the world have as little effect as possible on Canadians.

● (1610)

[English]

We are entering a very dangerous decade, as the Leader of the Opposition rightly stated, and many lethal currents are swirling about our shores. The Leader of the Opposition alluded to dangers in other parts of the world, and I can tell him that not only when he was the prime minister but also now that he is in opposition we share the feelings he expressed about the dangers to the peace of the world of such events as we have witnessed in the past months: the invasion by military might of the sovereignty of another country; the crushing by oppressive regimes of liberties and very often the very lives of peoples in other countries; and the very dangerous events which can fall from chaotic economic conditions throughout the world which limit our freedom of action and our freedom to pursue our own economic happiness. These are great dangers, but in a sense the greatest enemy is the enemy within, not the enemy without. I remember something Pogo used to say: "We have met the enemy, and they are us".

**An hon. Member:** "He is us".

**Mr. Trudeau:** I have looked up the quotation, and it is "they are us".

I believe that the Leader of the Opposition was correct in spending a good part of the time of his speech indicating that indeed in Canada there is this growing doubt about our ability to continue to act as one strong nation, and before looking at who is responsible for that I think it is important that we at least have a fair diagnosis of what is happening. We do see Canadians fearing that other Canadians will be a danger to them. We see provinces closing their doors to capital or labour or goods from other provinces. We see some Canadians acting as though the language and culture of other Canadians was a threat to them. We see Canadians slamming the door one in the face of the other and putting impediments before the free movement of people—I suppose even of ideas and culture—throughout this land, and I think that is the greater of all the dangers present in this coming decade. That is the danger that can bring a proud Canada to its knees if we in this Parliament do not sense our responsibility in acting together and expressing the national will and the national interest.

I was very pleased to hear the Leader of the Opposition when he was commending you, Madam Speaker, and complimenting you on the role which you have courageously undertaken, and I join in those compliments. But I was pleased also to hear the Leader of the Opposition say that you and we in this chamber are here to uphold the national interest and the national will. That gives me reason to be hopeful that this enemy within will soon be vanquished.

I had occasion to express that hope many times during the eight weeks of campaigning which we all went through when I sensed that in every part of Canada the majority of Canadians see as their first loyalty their loyalty to Canada before their loyalty to their regions. Very often we hear Quebecers or Albertans say "I am a Quebecer" or "I am an Albertan"; but if you really press them and examine them, they will always say "I am a Canadian first and a Quebecer second" or "an Albertan second".

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Trudeau:** It is this loyalty to the whole country upon which we must build if we want to vanquish this enemy within, this gnawing doubt, this uncertainty as to whether or not we will continue in ten or 20 years to act as a strong, united nation. It is this loyalty to the whole country that we in this chamber have the duty to nourish and develop, and certainly we on the treasury benches and in this party will make every effort in that direction.

If, indeed, we are insensitive in some areas—and if it is not mere rumour but reality—I say in advance that we will try to make amends for that; we will try to show a better understanding of whatever group in society or whatever region of the country feels that it was not justly served by this government.

[Translation]

When I listened yesterday to the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, I was proud to hear two new members voice their conviction with such eloquence, not only because they represent a part of the country that they hold dear but also because they managed in their maiden speech in this House to express their desire to serve not only their constituents, but also to serve the best interests of Canada, of the whole country, and to put their policy proposals in the context of a broader Canada which they are here to serve like all of us. And if we in this House do not constantly remind each other that this loyalty to Canada must prevail against the loyalty to the region, to the province or even to the constituency, well, who will do it for us?

● (1620)

[English]

We are the only group of men and women in this country who can speak for every Canadian. We are the only group, the only assembly in this country, which can speak for the whole nation, which can express the national will and the national interest. I think it is important that, in the discharge of our