

carried out by a Canadian boy and is to be done by Canadian workmen. I trust that Canada will guard it well, and will make it a mecca in France for our people forever.

Honourable gentlemen, I do not propose to take up the time of the House any further. I therefore have the honour to move:

That an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the humble thanks of this House for the gracious Speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament.

Hon. ONESIPHORE TURGEON (Translation): Honourable gentlemen, I have come within a theatre which is quite new to me, and the eminence of which I had not appreciated until my entrance to-day. The contemplation of so many Canadian dignitaries brings to my mind from Canadian history the recollection of those principles upon which this Dominion of Canada has been founded—principles truly British, extending in their generosity to minorities as well as to majorities, and by which our country, within its half century of existence, has been able to attain a position that excites the admiration of other nations.

It is as representative of the Acadian minority in New Brunswick that I have been called from among my generous constituents by the right honourable the Prime Minister of Canada and his colleagues, and have come to play my humble part in this august assembly, removed as it is from popular clamor and the engulfing waves of partisanship, guided in its deliberations by a spirit purely patriotic, and seeking only the general prosperity and happiness of the Canadian nation.

To-day the whole world is apprehensive of the future. If in the midst of all the prevailing difficulties and misgivings there is a young nation specially endowed with those qualities which make for development and greatness, both material and moral, that nation is Canada.

Over and above its abundant natural resources, Canada possesses two languages—the most beautiful, the richest, the most useful—two universal languages which together typify all noble and legitimate human aspirations. One is the English language, the language of industry and commerce, which has crossed every sea and penetrated every country wherein a shop or a bank is to be found, to fill it with British merchandise or British money, and has left everywhere in its wake the spirit of fraternity, developing and expanding with the increase of trade. The other is the French language, the language of the sciences and the arts, revealing

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their treasures and their merits; the language of the heart and of love; the language of eloquence; the language of diplomacy, in which international treaties have been written. These universal languages, placed in contact, develop energies, sentiments, and virtues, the application of which must necessarily make for the happiness of a people. Such is the good fortune of the people of Canada.

Yes, I affirm and repeat, always with faith: the cultivation of the many virtues of the English and French races will soon dispel the few clouds that still obscure parts of the Canadian sky, and then we shall live in an atmosphere that is pure, wholesome, invigorating. The result will be a happy blending of Canadian and Acadian good-fellowship, French affection, and British fair play, guaranteeing ample justice to the minorities of to-day as well as to those of to-morrow. Expressions of affection from the French will be showered upon the heads of their English-speaking neighbours, evoking sentiments of mutual esteem, generosity, and brotherhood, which will cause us to forget that we have minorities, and to say to one another, "Nous sommes tous Canadiens"—"we are all Canadians." And the generations to come, in the excess of their joy and happiness, will sing the praises of John A. Macdonald, George Etienne Cartier, Mackenzie, George Brown, Laurier, Mathieu, Moore, Sissons, MacPhail—worthy apostles of concord and harmony.

Honourable gentlemen, the Speech delivered yesterday by His Excellency the Governor General is a very comprehensive one, dealing with subjects of the greatest national importance at the present time. I hasten to call your attention to one of them. Honourable Rodolphe Lemieux, Speaker of the House of Commons, and member of the Legion of Honour, was sent, on behalf of the Canadian Battlefields Memorials Commission, to the governments of France and Belgium, for the purpose of acquiring ground in which the bodies of our Canadian heroes might find a resting place. Mr. Lemieux's noble mission has been attended with great success. A corner in the north of France, the Ridge of Vimy, now belongs to Canada, through the generosity of the French Government—a gift which will shortly be dedicated by the Deputies and Senators of France. The negotiations of Mr. Lemieux with the French Government have resulted in the establishment of a Canadian field at Vimy, where the Canadian troops fought for the first time as a Canadian unit. It is to the valour of the Canadian soldier that Vimy owes its fame,