

The Address—Mr. Bater

a snowplane, but on horseback. On several occasions the policeman stayed for dinner, fed his horse, and before leaving asked my father to sign his patrol book to show that he had been looking after the settlers to see that no one was going hungry or suffering. These are the men who, today, should not be allowed to want for the comforts or necessities of life. I hope that something will be done for them. Just prior to coming down here I was speaking to the wife of one of those members who is eighty-two years of age. She informed me that they were not in want but she knew others that had been in the forces along with her husband in the early days who, she thought, could well do with assistance. I hope the government will give consideration to these men. There are not many left and they should not be allowed to want.

Should like to ask what price must be paid to attain a world of peace and plenty. The terms are easy and are such as will finally benefit all and harm none. We shall not have to surrender any greater measure of our national identity, aspirations or ideals than you and I have to surrender as individuals in co-operating to maintain law and order within the nation; but we shall have to abandon the fallacy which teaches that we can become prosperous by limiting production and restricting trade, because political co-operation and economic isolation cannot exist side by side. What is required does not involve some new and untried scheme of social relationship or fantastic economic theory; it is simply the removal of those artificial barriers between men and nations that have been at the root of all our international differences, and the restoration to all the people of that most valuable privilege of organized society, the right to trade freely, one with another. Freedom of trade and intercourse between men and nations goes hand in hand with understanding and good will, and provides the only way in which all can be assured of that equality of opportunity that should be the inherent right of citizenship.

As our ship of state takes to the high seas of nationhood and international affairs, with the Prime Minister as the captain, his cabinet colleagues as his officers and the hon. members who support him making up the crew, I think I can safely say that our Prime Minister is well aware of the fact that in order to reach a port we must sail, sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it. We must, however, sail; we cannot drift or lie at anchor.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I should like to quote a poem by Will Allen Dromgoole, which in my opinion should express the outlook of this parliament. I should also like these words to be my personal tribute

[Mr. Bater.]

to one whom it was not my privilege to know for a long period of time; I became acquainted with him during the last session. On a few occasions we walked together from this building down to the hotel. The person to whom I refer and to whom I wish to pay tribute is the late T. L. Church. The poem is as follows:

An old man going a lone highway
Came in the evening, cold and grey,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide
Through which there flowed a sullen tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fears for him,
But he stopped when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man", said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with building
here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way.
You've crossed the chasm deep and wide,
Why build you this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old grey head,
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.

"This chasm which has been naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim,
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

(Translation):

Mr. Raoul Poulin (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, I have only a few rather brief remarks to make in this debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I should be sorry, in fact, to take up an undue amount of the time of this house. I shall therefore be brief.

I am pleased to congratulate the mover (Mr. Larson) and the seconder (Mr. Dumas) of the address in reply to the speech from the throne. In my humble opinion, both have done excellent work and any praise I might offer would not add to the intrinsic value of their speeches.

By means of the speech from the throne the government has made known the problem of unemployment in this country. Although I do not wish to indulge in unnecessary discussion, I feel it is my duty to point out that unemployment has reached alarming proportions in the constituency I have the honour to represent. From nearly all parishes in my constituency I received petitions signed by hundreds of people and resolutions from municipal councils expressing concern at the seriousness of the problem. After a summary survey, I am in a position to state that there are over 2,500 unemployed in my constituency at the present time. Some villages are greatly affected. And then the fact