

Canada. We in this country do not have to rebuild in a physical sense; but the impact of war has left deep wounds of another type, which I believe all men of good will should hasten to heal. No one can escape responsibility. That responsibility is on everyone, but in greater degree perhaps on the members of this Chamber. Here are men of influence in the industrial, financial and newspaper circles of Canada. A great opportunity is before us to build up, not to pull down; to say the kind word, not the harsh word—to the end that war, if it be at all within our ability to prevent it, shall never again undermine our civilization. It would be a sorry spectacle indeed if after our boys and girls of all racial origins and religious beliefs have so freely spilt their blood in our defence, those who survive should find on their return that we at home have been so remiss in meeting our responsibilities that we have permitted the country to be divided into groups, with man's hand set against his fellow man, and that once again those who died for Canada have died in vain.

Honourable senators, while I am seconding the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne I should like to pay a personal tribute to the man who by force of circumstances has discharged the heaviest responsibilities of government during the past five years. It is no easy matter to guide any democratic country through a period of total war, particularly Canada with its diverse racial elements. Successful government of such a country calls for the highest type of statesmanship. Inevitably there was bound to be criticism, and it would be amazing if some of it at least was not justified. But as we approach what we hope will be the victorious conclusion of the war, I am sure that the people of Canada can rest happy in the reflection that, under the prudent and courageous leadership of Prime Minister King, the administration has been efficient and honest, and as a result, the prestige of Canada has reached a height unparalleled in her history, so that whatever the future may have in store, in the years that lie ahead Canadians can be proud of their country, proud of their record, and can face the future with confidence.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Haig, the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, March 27, at 8 p.m.

THE SENATE

Tuesday, March 27, 1945.

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate resumed from Wednesday, March 21, the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Vaillancourt for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. JOHN T. HAIG: Honourable senators, allow me first to offer my congratulations to the mover (Hon. Mr. Vaillancourt) and the seconder (Hon. Mr. Robertson) of the Address. I was not able to follow the mover as he spoke, and did not know what he had said until I got a translation of his speech the next day. I then found that to a great extent I was in sympathy with the sentiments he had expressed. I wish to join in the tribute paid by the seconder to our soldiers, sailors and airmen. As I speak to-night on the motion for an Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne I feel very happy, because it seems to me that any man who follows the news dispatches these days must realize that we are approaching the end of the war in Europe. All who have sons or brothers or fathers or sisters over there are now looking forward to the day when they will return.

I will say nothing further about the war. We Canadians, of course, are proud of our war effort, and especially proud of our men in the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. It has been said that the Air Force does not win wars, and even though the Navy keeps the sea lanes fairly open, we have to rely on the men in the infantry to win final victory. There may be fitter places than this to discuss our war effort, but I should like to voice the opinion that every member of this House, no matter what his views on other questions may be, is proud of the men and women who left our country to take part in what we believe to be the greatest fight for liberty in the history of the world.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I am one of those who think that certain things could have been done better. I think also that some things could have been done better during the last war. After that war was over we saw a lot of mistakes that had been made. Mistakes have been made in this war as well, but I am