

recall being in Malaysia in 1963 when I had the privilege of attending the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association gathering there. Most Canadians who were delegates to that conference contacted Canadian citizens who were stationed in Malaysia. Malaysia is a country of 20 million people, and it was hard to find a Canadian there because there were few of them. The important thing is that those who were there were doing a tremendous job on behalf of Canada and on behalf of Malaysia. The only criticism I could make was that there was not nearly enough of them.

I travelled from Malaysia to India. There are several hundreds of Canadians in India, but when they are mingled with 480 million native Indians they are hard to find. But when I did find an area in which there were a few Canadians—doctors, nurses, school teachers and engineers—I found that no matter what endeavour they were engaged in they were doing a good job for Canada, and their services and the contributions they were making were warmly welcomed by the people of India, as they were in Malaysia and any other area of the world in which Canadians happened to be serving.

Honourable senators, as I said at the beginning of my remarks, it has been a distinct pleasure for me to have the opportunity of moving this address. I hope I shall be able to make at least one improvement over the years, and that is that before too long a time expires I shall be able to speak to more of you in your native tongue.

[Translation]

Hon. L. M. Gouin: Honourable senators, I am most happy to support the motion which has just been moved so eloquently by our new colleague from Regina, Senator Alexander Hamilton McDonald. I wish to congratulate him most heartily for his first appearance in this Chamber and I am sure we shall always be happy to hear him.

[Text]

I wish to congratulate also most sincerely His Honour the Speaker. I am sure that he will be worthy of the long line of his industrious predecessors. I am convinced that he will preside over our debates with the good judgment and with the tact which characterizes him.

[Translation]

I must now pay my respects to our new Deputy Government Leader. I wish to emphasize his great qualities to which he owes his

high position at the bar as well as in the business world. I am sure that Senator Bouffard will carry out wonderfully the duties he has just been assigned. He can count upon my full co-operation.

I now wish to express my regrets to Senator Vaillancourt about his resignation from the post of Deputy Leader. He is held in high esteem by all the members of this House. His whole career is proof of his enlightened patriotism, his social spirit, his devotion to his fellow citizens. He spent his life in good deeds and I do hope that Divine Providence will keep him long among us.

[Text]

Now I wish to express my regrets for the illness of our leader, the honourable Senator John Connolly. I have the greatest admiration for the qualities of his generous heart and his brilliant mind. I hope with all my heart that he will recover promptly and completely.

[Translation]

Honourable senators, the very first paragraph of the Speech from the Throne says, and not unduly, that

We should be very proud to be Canadians.

I remember that the right honourable Louis St. Laurent liked to say:

It's great to be a Canadian.

Yes, we are justified in being proud of our country, since it continues to prosper in the economic as well as in the social field. However, we may find the chief reason for being proud is the important role Canada plays on the international scene. Our Government is always aware of our responsibilities towards the United Nations Organization. We have never failed to meet our commitments. In fulfilling our duty toward the world community, we set an example for the whole world.

Under the enlightened leadership of the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, who was awarded the Nobel peace prize a few years ago, and thanks to the constant action and the diplomacy of the Honourable Paul Martin, Canada pursues, in the international field, its benevolent and peacemaking activities, as a member of the United Nations, as well as of the Commonwealth and NATO. Thus, Canada assumed the mission of ensuring everywhere and always peace and justice for all peoples.

Recently, our Prime Minister attended in Lagos, Nigeria, a meeting of the Commonwealth in order to put an end to the situation existing in Rhodesia where, because of the