

*National Anthem*

tune of "O Canada" is now almost universally accepted from one end of this country to the other as the tune of our national anthem. About the words, I am not so sure. I know that I often address public meetings in various parts of Canada. At those public meetings we in this group make it a practice to open the meeting with the singing of "O Canada", and to close with "God Save the King". When "O Canada" is sung, I listen to the audience and I find that no common wording is used in it. Some sing "Glorious and free", and some sing "On guard for thee". I never know what any group of people will sing. If we are going to have a national hymn we must have the words set to our national tune so that words and tune are acceptable to all of us and can be used universally.

I do not think that in any way conflicts with the idea that was put forward by the member for Peel (Mr. Graydon).

**Some hon. Members:** What idea?

**Mr. Coldwell:** The idea that we should not try to bring about too much, shall I use the word regimentation, in this regard—

**Mr. Hackett:** Rigidity.

**Mr. Coldwell:** That is a better word, and I thank my hon. friend for giving it to me. There is no desire on the part of anyone to make the thing so rigid it will be offensive, but I think there is a common desire on the part of all of us that in this country we shall achieve national unity. Unity in diversity it must be in some respects, but a unity of loyalty to our country; a unity of fellowship in which we can join together from time to time whether we speak French or whether we speak English, whether we speak Ukrainian or whether we speak Welsh. I may say that you could not tell a Welshman that "God Save the King", is the national anthem of Wales. He would tell you it was "Mae hen wlad fy nhadau", or "Land of Our Fathers".

I should say there should be no attempt to prevent each and every one of our people from singing the songs of their own land, but we should be able to join together in singing one song to indicate that we have a common Canadian citizenship, a common loyalty to a common country.

**Mr. T. L. Church (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, I do not think I shall occupy very much time in speaking on this motion. The hon. gentleman who introduced it forgets one thing, namely, that all these matters of a new flag, a new anthem, a new governor general, and a bill to abolish appeals to the privy council, are only secondary matters and should not be raised at this time. I am not speaking for the official opposition but as one who has had

a great deal of admiration for the people of that great province of Quebec. I never forget what they did in France during the last war. Sixty thousand of our own troops from Toronto district went overseas, including some of the present ministers and the members on this side of the house. I plead with these members to forget these unimportant questions at the present time and to consider the unrest there is in the world. All members should consider that most important matter which the Prime Minister introduced on Monday. It was emphasized there was a need for security. We do not know actually to whom the country is going to belong; we face a very grave invasion threat by land, sea and in the air. I do urge my hon. friends from Quebec to consider security.

As I say, many of our soldiers from Toronto fell during the last war. They are buried in France, Belgium and the other countries over there. I am sorry that the hon. member has urged us to give consideration to this matter at the present time. I do not say that in any way to reflect upon the hon. member who moved this motion. I believe this same member last year introduced a similar motion in which he wanted to substitute the word "Canada" for the words "Dominion of Canada" in the Holiday Act. I believe it was Bill No. 8. I am not speaking for the official opposition. Since I have come into the house I have always endeavoured to support principles. All along, those principles have been clear-cut. I have not been one of those who are here today and away tomorrow. I have not changed my colours every five minutes nor have I worn a coat of many colours. I have persistently brought before the house national measures that would benefit all the people of this country and the working classes but many of them have been forgotten.

When you look at the history of this country from the time before confederation, you will see that it was the policy of men like Howe, Macdonald, Cartier, George Brown, all those great men, to live in a spirit of harmony. On many occasions tribute has been paid to what the French people have done to bind Canada together. Away back in 1844 Sir John A. Macdonald said we should be bound up with the mother country for all time. I believe it was Sir Etienne Taché who said that when it came to the defence of Canada the last shot would be fired by a French Canadian. That great Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, led the procession in the diamond jubilee of the empress queen, Queen Victoria. Men of all races, from all over the world, flocked to the glorious diamond jubilee in 1897 of the late empress queen. They came from cape, island and continent.