

immensity of the Canadian debt that one day must be repaid have to be found, if we do not wish to leave a bankrupt Canada as the heritage of our youth.

I seriously advocate constitutional ceilings of debt in federal, provincial and municipal fields. Debts should be restricted to a per capita basis which cannot legally and constitutionally be exceeded by any government under any normal circumstances, and there must be consideration given to the true value of our changing money base, its deflated or inflated value.

Whether we like it or not within the next five decades it will be necessary to think of Montreal and Toronto as cities with populations of six million or even more, if the computers are correct. These cities—and there are likely to be others equally important—will require more elaborate and more complex administrations with far greater powers for their government and management. We shall have to consider what will have to be done when our rural population becomes less than 10 per cent of the total population.

Honourable senators recently saw the confusion resulting from dislocation of the work of federal, provincial and municipal police. Co-ordination appeared hardly possible because of the rivalry which existed between the forces and the way in which each operated. With the increase in population in decades to follow the whole concept of protective security must be reviewed and redetermined constitutionally. There is now a need for an auxiliary police force to meet unforeseen contingencies, and there will have to be a super-national security force with adequate authority, able to meet the challenges posed by any internal adversaries or enemies of our nation in whatever province those challenges may arise. At present Canada has a most questionable arrangement to ensure the mass protection of its citizens. It is quite remarkable and surprising that up until now we have been able to manage so well and for so long.

I should like to pay homage to the Fathers of Confederation for having given Canada the best governmental structure to be found anywhere. To this day its equal cannot be found elsewhere, and I am always proud to hear our American friends rave about our governmental structure, and refer to its superiority over their own.

Yesterday the media reported that rumours had leaked from the Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada that a recommendation by at least four of its members would be that the monarchy be dropped from the Canadian Constitution. Statements were made yesterday by certain members that no consideration was at present being given to such a recommendation. Last night the first strong warning was issued against such a move. Personally, I could not care less if we called the Prime Minister Mr. President, as I have heard suggested a few times. It would not change things very much, and it could be an innovation.

However, as I view the world I wonder if prime ministers do not command more respect in their respective countries at the present time than do presidents in theirs. My personal view is that our system of being an associated country, having royal representation, such as exists in

Canada, acting on behalf of the Canadian people, has some very high intrinsic value. Canada would lose something important in the actual mechanism of Government. I do not think our system can be replaced by just changing the title of Prime Minister to that of the President. There has never been any embarrassment arising from the existence of our royal representation, but I can see that there would be embarrassment without it.

From my study of the Constitution and in tabulating all that was brought forth as being wrong about it, I have not found the monarchy to be a truly major objection. I would hate to think that we would recommend such changes merely because of the current trend to change generally. There should be adequate major reason for making a basic innovation and we should fully recognize its value to Canada.

I believe, however, that there may be important reasons for streamlining, improving and making our official representation even more useful and helpful to Canada in our non-political relationships with countries all over the world. There is no longer even the semblance of a reason for carrying on such visits with the old-fashioned pomp and fabulous costs that once were a must, a ritual, a kind of necessary protocol to follow. There is no need in a country of 20 million people to send along battleships or ceremonial troops to impress or make known our unbalanced extravagances. I do not believe our royal representatives ever required this. I believe it was the making of someone in authority in our establishment who was still following an undeserved age pattern, and arranging such expensive stage settings in accordance with ancient customs, which I would agree should be completely changed in these days. The royal representatives of the Queen of Canada should not be made to show that they are there beyond our means.

[*Translation*]

We must not content ourselves with a few amendments to the Canadian Constitution merely to elucidate some points. Our history shows that our Constitution has never really worked very well because it is still imperfect. A complete revision of our guiding principles in governmental life and in our federal-provincial relations should be considered in a practical way, if Canada is to remain what it is with all its advantages and if further development and prosperity is to be made possible. On account of the history of our Constitution, of the protest movements that have grown around it, it is important that our new or updated Constitution should meet adequately the desires, ideals and objectives of the participants, if we really want to admit that they are participants. Nothing less, I believe, will really satisfy the particular aspirations of the provinces and their citizens. One can find in the arguments of the separatist movement the bitterest criticisms against our Canadian Constitution, criticisms which find an echo among many excellent citizens working against the separatist movement. Of course, consideration and correction of our unrest are still at the basis of the success of the Canadian constitutional conferences. As for me, I have faith in our continuous Canadian unity and our brilliant Canadian future. I believe in an intelligent consideration of our problems and in reasona-