

Philip, Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. At this moment this charming royal couple—the beloved daughter and heiress of His Gracious Majesty, and her sailor husband—are proceeding across Canada, having winged their way to our shores across the broad Atlantic on the modern magic carpet, which seems so appropriate a means of transport for a princess of our time, and yet was chosen through untoward circumstances lending special significance and sentiment to this visit.

I am sure that all honourable members and all citizens of Canada have been deeply perturbed in these past weeks by the serious illness of our Sovereign, of whose gracious personality many of us have keen recollection through the royal visit of 1939. We are all aware of how nobly he bore himself through the trying years of war, how devoted was his attention to duty in that terrible time, and how greatly, on those occasions when he spoke to his peoples, he was able to inspire courage and hope through the expression of his own simple and unquenchable faith in God and the right. To the secular leadership that is an obligation of the Crown, George the Sixth has added also a spiritual leadership which has been a bright light in England's darkest hours and has forged a new bond of understanding and affection between the sovereign and his subjects. I feel, honourable senators, that I am speaking the minds of all members of this honourable house when I say that our sympathy for the King in his illness, and for his family in their time of anxiety, is born of deep ties of admiration and affection, and that it is our most earnest hope that the progress His Majesty has made towards recovery since his operation will continue, so that he may be fully restored to health, long to reign over his loyal and devoted subjects in all parts of this great Commonwealth.

The visit of Princess Elizabeth had necessarily to be postponed one week, so that she might be near her father during the most anxious period after his operation. We are glad to take it as an assurance that His Majesty is well on the road to complete recovery that Her Royal Highness has found it possible to fulfil her program in Canada, and that she and her consort are now undertaking the arduous cross-Canada tour planned for them with complete freedom from anxiety, so that Princess Elizabeth may enjoy to the full the many things we wish to show her with pride, and the evidence of our affection for the Royal Family which we are all anxious to display.

I speak on these matters with deeper feeling because I come from an island that you may know as the tenth province but that we,

who live there and have imbibed from birth its great traditions, will continue, without prejudice to our new political associations, to think of as the Loyal and Ancient Colony, the Birthplace of the Commonwealth, the First Jewel in the Crown of Empire. The aircraft bringing the Princess to Canada was intended to fly non-stop, but I was pleased indeed to note that, as a gesture which my fellow Newfoundlanders also have much appreciated, there was a brief halt at Gander, so that the oldest colony and the newest province was the first part of Canada to welcome our royal visitors, as it will also be the province that will bid them farewell and Godspeed. May I add, honourable senators, that I am convinced that in Canada Her Royal Highness will find a people keenly appreciative of the part played by the Royal Family in creating a common bond between us and all other members of the Commonwealth? The King is our sovereign. The Princess is our princess. They have set us a noble example of service at its highest and most devoted level, of which we cannot fail to take note, and which I am sure it will be our earnest and anxious pleasure to recognize in the warmth and affectionate nature of the welcome which has greeted and will continue to greet this charming royal couple throughout the length and breadth of this great land.

Speaking as a Newfoundlander, I may say further that we who came from that birthplace of civilization on the shores of the new world are actively cultivating a great pride in this vast new nation of which we have so recently become a part. It may be said that Canada is like a great joint stock company, and I assure you that no people throughout the length and breadth of this land are more prepared to assume unlimited liability towards the Canadian way of life than are the people of the newest province. Never in the history of our country has there been a greater need for faith and loyal service than at the present moment. Never did this nation and the Commonwealth, of which it is so important a part, require so urgently the strenuous and united support of all its members. In the present terribly uncertain state of international affairs an active vigilance is more than ever necessary as the price of liberty.

But, while we on our part are fully prepared, even anxious, to do our share in this partnership of nations, we are at the same time aware that our new partners have responsibilities also to us; and while for the most part we have received a hearty welcome into the partnership of Confederation, nevertheless some of the great utility corporations of Canada seem slow to recognize us as being entitled to equal rights and privileges with