

going to give an overview because I expect my stalwart colleagues to deal with it more specifically in its various parts.

I was moved by a number of things. I have in mind the specific references to the spouses allowance for widows and widowers aged 60 to 64—thank God I am not in that category but I am thinking of the country—the betterment of the financial situation of our veterans, the references to community-based health care and very appealing to me was the encouragement of those dedicated to cultural, artistic and athletic endeavour. These are worthy entries in the category called social justice, a fine political expression which I first heard used by a great Canadian, a former premier of Ontario, the late Honourable Leslie Frost.

I am confident that Canadians will welcome the new tone in federal-provincial relations. It bodes well for the future of a united, harmonious and prosperous Canada.

I read with particular appreciation the statement: "The constitutional agreement is incomplete so long as Quebec is not part of an accord." When the constitutional measure was before this house, I found it emotionally and intellectually impossible to support it, believing as I did and believing as I said that any agreement including all of Canada but Quebec was insufficient, and perhaps worse. I hope to see new, brighter and better developments in this important field. The Speech from the Throne leads me to believe that I shall.

Honourable senators, I was impressed that in the Speech from the Throne, short as those speeches go, three and a half pages were devoted to foreign affairs under the section designated "Renewed Canadian Internationalism."

Prime Minister Mulroney has already been impressive in the field of external affairs. His appointment of a former prime minister, Joe Clark, to this portfolio was most fitting. I cannot think of anyone who could represent us more appropriately on the international scene than the former prime minister. He is acquainted with and is respected by all sorts of world leaders. It demonstrated the Prime Minister's ability, which I applaud, to place the right person in the right job. Then came the appointment of Douglas Roche as Ambassador for Disarmament. I know of no one in Canada who is more suited by emotion, training, temperament and knowledge to take on that job. No better person could be found. The appointments of Ambassador Lewis to the United Nations and Ambassador Francis to Portugal are indications of Prime Minister Mulroney's wisdom and sensitivity.

The Speech from the Throne declares that "Canada's opportunity to influence the course of world events lies primarily in sound multilateral institutions." I think that that is a sound precept. We cannot be a loner on the world stage and be a great achiever at the same time.

Useful contacts have already been made at the highest level with leaders in the United States. It does not require a genius I.Q. or weeks of research to find grounds for criticism of United States policy. I can do it at the drop of a hat. No problem. But I have not yet found anyone who can argue away the simplistic truth uttered by Senator Olson's one-time leader

[Senator Macquarrie.]

in the House of Commons, Robert Thompson, who said: "Mr. Speaker, the Americans are our best friends whether we like it or not." Get around that if you can.

In yesterday's Ottawa *Citizen* I read a welcome item entitled "Days of Squabbling with France Over: P.M.". Why in Heaven's name should we be squabbling with France? It seems to me that if we build upon consensus at home and goodwill abroad we are sensibly starting to go down a road to worthy achievements, and I think that all Canadians will wish the new government well in that regard.

I note with pleasure that a special parliamentary committee will conduct a full review of the main components and objectives of our international relations. Such a review is overdue.

I now come with some trepidation to another subject. I do not claim to be an expert on national defence, but I welcome the section on that subject. As an unregenerate peace-nik and/or dove—I do not mind which I am called—I have no difficulty supporting Defence Minister Coates in his efforts. We simply cannot have our service men and women assigned to important world roles or important domestic ones and dare do anything less than provide them with the resources and equipment to do their job. I believe also that we have given them tasks which have outrun their existing numbers. So, a dove like myself believes that we have to make some realistic enlargement of our military establishment. We are in NATO because an earlier government recognized that it was the place to be and because in the following years the Canadian people had demonstrated that they want us there. I could never see that there was an enormous particularistic interest in foreign policy matters on the part of the Canadian people. I looked for that for many years. But there are certain things in a general way that are meaningful. One is that they want us to be in the United Nations. Secondly, they are proud of our peacekeeping forces. I have not run across any Canadian who is not. The third factor is that we properly belong in NATO and being there we should pull our weight. I believe that the Senate Subcommittee on National Defence said that most eloquently. I have always sensed that feeling among Canadian people. Even a peace-nik or a neutralist must face it. I applaud the Speech from the Throne in that regard.

I end as I began by underlining the importance of this era and the importance of this chamber in this era. We are overlooked; we are neglected; we are criticized. I interpret from the Speech from the Throne that it is only the House of Commons that they are going to investigate in terms of reform. When the joint committee was formed in the last Parliament to consider the reform of the Senate I resented the fact that we were setting up a joint committee to look into and examine only one house. I did not agree with that.

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** With the majority from the Commons!

**Senator Macquarrie:** As Senator Doody says "With the majority from the Commons!"

But behind all of this there is the feeling that we should watch it and that there is someone out there concerned about