

takes place in those committees, so I can only say that when it came to the consideration of subjects such as the Arctic, NATO and general defence, our people spoke with great frankness, clarity and in many instances with distinction. I do not like to mention names, but I think I should say that one young member of our committee from the other house, namely Mr. John Roberts, spoke with such ability and knowledge that he made me wonder how one with such promising talent could have become enmeshed in the heresies of his particular party.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: That is what happened to the Leader of the Government 35 years ago.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: As I said, I can only write a footnote to this debate. On Tuesday last when honourable Mr. Speaker Deschatelets spoke, he very kindly but inaccurately said that I had delivered what he called a remarkable speech in Houston to our American friends. This was at the farewell dinner to us, and because Mr. Speaker appealed to me to repeat part of what I said at that time, and because I have been given to understand from Washington that most of my remarks are to be included in the *Congressional Record*, I may be pardoned if I repeat some of those words now.

What I was trying to do was to avoid misleading our American friends, the American delegation, about our true position in Canada. We meet them in friendship and we are inclined to indulge in those comfortable phrases of mutual praise which you hear at all such international gatherings. I have attended international gatherings in Ottawa and abroad, and at times I have been disturbed by the nice Nelliisms of diplomatic jargon, by the expression of clichés that in our existing world create false dimensions of reality. No purpose can be achieved by uttering the platitudes which belong to departed greatness. What we are up against are hard, cruel facts in a turbulent, disturbed world, and it behooves us, even among those we count as friends to make sure that they understand our position. Therefore, I shall now repeat some of the things I said to our American friends.

I want to say something about Canada, about our relations with your own great land. The people of Canada, like the people of the United States, are basically North Americans, inheritors of the thought and traditions of Europe, but also the children of geography, products of

the environments, the emotions, the driving forces, the faith, the dreams and the forms of expression of this North American continent. Yet there is a difference—a difference I plead with you to not forget. For while Canada and the United States may have the same basic cultures, they each at the same time have domestic and other tasks and problems—political, social and economic—which differ widely. Canada's particular responsibilities, her government, her constitutional structure, her ideals and aspirations, her memories and milestones, even her discords, are facts in her existence which cannot be approached understandingly or usefully by another country, even though that country be as friendly as yours. Only Canadians can know and resolve such things, and we are determined to resolve them in our own way, in the indispensable way of a sovereign society. A bit of this continent, from earth to sky, we want to call our very own.

Hon. Mr. Martin: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary:

Wanting that, resolved to have it, we need not be enemies, but will pray always that as God has made us neighbours, justice will make us friends.

Measured by human history, yours is a young country. Yet standing at the cockcrow and the morning star, you are at a pinnacle of power, with an awesome accountability to history. If in the discharge of that responsibility you seek peace with justice, then we as an ally and friend, but never as a satellite, will walk with you always. For if peace be but a pause to identify the next enemy, if our world be unable to find a moral equivalent for the hydrogen bomb, then despair will have the last word, Death's pale flag be again advanced, and this planet well cease to be the abode of men. I end, then, with the invocation, Vive Canada! and God bless and save America!

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: Honourable senators, I repeat these words now not because I regard them as great rhetoric, not because I think of them as literary excellence, but because of the significant fact that the members of both houses of Congress who heard me speak those words rose to a man in enthusiastic applause.