

several provinces owe to the mother of Parliaments in the old land.

The tower which is to be the crowning feature of this structure will be a national memorial to Canada's sons who gave their lives for the world's freedom in the recent war. All Canada will rejoice at this recognition of our heroic dead, the chivalry of our young land. Beneath the stone at its base, laid by His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, in September last, will be found the names of the workmen who have carved the stone, and wrought the iron finishings which are a part of this structure. In the tower itself, I believe it is contemplated to record the name of every man and woman who served with the military and naval forces of Canada during the war. What finer symbolism could there be of the forces that combined to win the War—the armies in the field, the navy and the merchant marine upon the sea, and the workmen in essential industry wherever found?

In this Chamber and in the Senate, as also in the reading room and the Railway Committee Room, the design and artistic detail will be such that, not only will great dignity and impressiveness be lent to the surroundings, but each room will speak its own purpose.

The Hall of Fame which connects the central court with the Library will be our Canadian pantheon, the prophecy of a Canadian Westminster or St. Paul's of the Canada that is yet to be.

In this unique and inspiring manner, those of us who are privileged to assemble here, will be reminded daily of our country's vastness in extent and resources, its variety and picturesqueness in natural scenery, and ever-changing customs, its strength and virility in all that relates to the development of its industries, its progress in art and letters, as well as in material wealth, and of the true greatness of the Canadian people in character and heroic achievement.

A second note sounded in this wonderful environment is that of harmony—harmony of colour and design, harmony of aim and purpose, harmony of the several parts that unite to comprise the whole. Here surely is something that will not be without its influence upon the amenities of our parliamentary life, and its bearing upon the great problems that confront our nation. We have too often mistaken the significance of our differences of origin, of temperament, of interest, forgetting that variety may lend a richness to life which uniformity tends wholly to destroy. What is needed in the upbuilding of our nation is not the obliteration

of differences, but the reconciling of them. We should seek to make this noble structure a temple of reconciliation in all that pertains to our national life. To what loftier purpose could we dedicate the new privilege that is ours to-day?

There is another note that is sounded, and which at the moment seems to ring out beyond all the rest. It is the spirit of our people. To some it has seemed a misfortune that we should have entered these buildings before they had reached completion. They, surely, have never heard of "the glory of the imperfect." What we witnessed in the destruction of these buildings was a symbol of the desecration and the desolation of recent years. What we are witnessing to-day is the spirit of the people rising out of the ashes and ruins of the world, and building anew a civilization of a higher and saner order than any the world has hitherto known. Who would separate himself from this work of reconstruction, standing aside lest his garments may be stained? Why, Sir, we have here a foretaste of the industrial commonwealth that is to be, where, in the affairs of State, the workers in industry are the builders in common with the framers of a nation's laws.

And this note brings out another; it is the greatness that is yet to be. It was on the 56th anniversary of the laying of the corner-stone of the old Parliament Buildings by King Edward VII, at that time the young Prince of Wales, that his brother, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, officiated at the relaying of the same stone as the new foundation of these buildings as restored. Speaking of that earlier occasion, His Royal Highness remarked that, looking at that stone, and all that it represented of the changes that had taken place when it was first laid, we recognized how little those who had assisted at the ceremony of those days could foresee the great progress and advancement that has been made by this Dominion. If that remark was true when we were still in the midst of war, how much more true it is to-day when Victory has been won and Peace restored. When Edward VII, as Prince of Wales, visited the capital of Canada that was to be, he and his party made their journey from Montreal to Ottawa in canoes, they were escorted by Indians and *couriers des bois*, they landed at a wharf on the banks of the Ottawa, and climbed its slopes. To-day, our transportation terminals rival our legislative halls. What will Canada be in another fifty-six years? What in another five hundred and sixty? Who will dare to say?

[Mr. King.]