

The Address—Mr. Schneider

(Text):

Mr. N. C. Schneider (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, I wish first to express my appreciation and thanks to the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) for his kindness in giving to me the honour and distinction of seconding the motion for the address in reply to the speech from the throne. The senior honour of moving the address in reply quite properly goes to my friend the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Deslières). I have been a Canadian for the past one hundred and seven years; my hon. friend has been a Canadian for the past three hundred years or more. I wish to extend to him my compliments on his excellent speech and to express my admiration for his fluency in both French and English. My hon. friend is the mayor of Sutton, Quebec; he is a wonderful example of a good Canadian, and I envy him his proficiency in both languages.

In my province of Ontario there is definitely a new and better understanding of our fellow Canadians in Quebec and other French-speaking areas. A good part of this improved *bon accord* is due to our love and respect for our Prime Minister. I have not heard one word of criticism of our Prime Minister; on the contrary, I hear many words of praise for his abilities as a leader and as a promoter of national unity.

I wish to express the thanks of our people of Waterloo North for the honour bestowed upon us in the selection of our former representative in this house for the office of lieutenant governor of Ontario. Hon. Louis O. Breithaupt will justify this selection and his name will be added to the list of native sons who have brought honour to our riding, including our late prime minister, William Lyon Mackenzie King.

The William Lyon Mackenzie King memorial home "Woodside" on Spring street in Kitchener has been completely rebuilt and furnished with many of the original pieces from the King home. The boyhood home of one of our greatest Canadians is now preserved as a national memorial and is open to visitors.

The county of Waterloo was settled by the Pennsylvania Dutch in the year 1799, almost two hundred years after Champlain founded the city of Quebec. Our people by their industry, thrift and integrity have built an agricultural and industrial community second to none in Canada. This year the county of Waterloo held a centennial celebration of the founding of the county with an excellent pageant in our beautiful Waterloo city park, showing the coming of the Dutch to the northern part of the county and of the Scottish to the southern part, followed by the English, Irish and Ger-

[Mr. Deslières.]

mans. Whatever they may have been at one time, they are now Canadians all. The war loan drives and dominion savings bonds drives have demonstrated their thrift in the following results: The grand total of victory loan bonds sold in Waterloo North was \$256,729,000; for Canada savings bonds the total was \$12,923,000. May I tell the house that we are the kind of people who do not worry about a surplus but who would worry ourselves sick about a deficit.

While it is true that our citizens of the Mennonite and Amish religions claim exemption from military service, they bought their share of war bonds amounting to a half million dollars with the stipulation that they would accept no interest whatever. Another half million dollars was subscribed in bonds bearing the Red Cross stamp which indicated that the money was to be used for humanitarian purposes. It is also significant that the national revenue department has recently opened a new district income tax office in Kitchener.

Recruiting for active service in Waterloo North has always been excellent and, in spite of poor quarters, our four militia units carry on an active training program. Our largest and oldest unit is the 54th light anti-aircraft battery, formerly the Scots Fusiliers of Canada. Their barracks is the sixth floor of an office building and they are working under difficulties. The 24th field ambulance is quartered in an old abandoned post office, while the 48th field squadron of engineers and the No. 3 transport company of the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps are quartered in a drill hall and other temporary wooden structures at Knollwood Park, which were used for army training in the last war. A navy unit is being organized by a group of naval veterans and a proper armoury is really needed for these five services. The enthusiasm and loyalty of these experienced officers and men should be encouraged. With the present substantial and necessary defence expenditure, we are at present not pressing with the department our claim for an armoury. We have been assured that when the present emergency passes, consideration will be given to providing a suitable armoury for Waterloo North, but I do suggest that there will be a real advantage to the government in increased defence activity as soon as the armoury is built.

Our young men are also air-minded and the Waterloo-Wellington airport is the home of the Waterloo-Wellington flying club with 250 members and an active unit of the Royal Canadian Air Force Association. Air cadets and air force association members from Kitchener, Waterloo, Guelph, Galt, Preston and