

to see that other people are demanding the rights of their languages. I have not been afraid that either this government or any future government will listen to those demands, because any government must have before it the horrible example of the continent of Europe, with its multiplicity of languages, which has become a modern tower of Babel. That factor must account for much of the trouble taking place in Europe at the present time.

During the September crisis we in the Yukon heard the voice of the world over the radio. We were thousands of miles from London, the heart of empire; yet there was not a heart in the Yukon but beat in unison with the tragedy which was taking place overseas. There was no one who did not feel the greatest amount of sympathy for that Prime Minister, Mr. Chamberlain. Not only did he turn the other cheek to the enemy but he turned it several times. Certainly he must have suffered the greatest agony of humiliation when undergoing what he did. But in undergoing that, while thoughtlessly many people have said that he gave away much that he should not have given away, for the time being at least he saved the world from a horrible slaughter.

Yesterday afternoon when the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) spoke, I heard him say that the danger was not past, a fact which I believe we all realize. Only the cool heads will be able to stave off the danger a little longer, and yet a little longer, until possibly the world may realize the utter madness of another holocaust such as those of us who are older went through between 1914 and 1918. There is nothing for a government to do but to do the best it can in times of such anxiety. Those of us who are not responsible can sit on the side lines and criticize. It is very easy to find fault; it is easy to criticize. But I sometimes wonder how much better we could have done ourselves. I doubt if there are many of us who would have done even as well. During the crisis the Yukon was deeply interested, dreading the thought of war. Yet at the same time every heart beat in unison with the empire and every person was willing to do as was done in the days of 1914, 1915 and 1916. If needs be, they were ready to answer the call of king and country.

Changing the subject very quickly, we come to the pleasant thought of the visit of Their Majesties, the King and Queen. In 1937 I had the privilege of suggesting to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning) that silver coinage be issued by the government to

[Mrs. Black.]

commemorate the coronation. Not for one moment do I intimate that the minister followed my suggestion. But the fact remains that silver coinage was issued, and among my few souvenirs I cherish the coin issued at that time, as well as the silver dollar issued at the time of the silver jubilee.

We see by the papers the government will again issue souvenirs by way of silver coinage and stamps. I am particularly interested in the issue of silver because in the Yukon there is a large territory in the Mayo district devoted to silver lead mining. As hon. members from British Columbia will no doubt point out, that province also is interested in silver mining, and anything that can be done to encourage our miners will surely be of infinite help to that class of people, upon whom many governments depend.

In the royal couple about to visit this country we have a fine example of manhood and womanhood in the British Empire. Suddenly these two people were called upon to fill a staggeringly difficult position. Neither one of them had trained deliberately to occupy a throne. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth is a commoner, though of royal descent through the female line. The king was a prince occupying a secondary position. Yet in the twinkling of an eye those young people accepted a huge responsibility. No one in the world can say they have not filled the position thus far with grace and dignity not only to themselves but to the empire at large. Courageously and prayerfully they are carrying on. We owe them a great debt and our best efforts to make their lives happier and easier. They are coming to Canada and from one end of the country to the other every respect is to be shown them.

Unfortunately the Yukon is not to be visited by the royal couple, but I am free to say that Yukoners one and all feel a steadfast loyalty and fealty to those young people who are carrying on so bravely and so well. Possibly they are fortunate in the example which has been set them by the late King George V and his royal consort Queen Mary for whom the world has the greatest affection. Although I was born and brought up in the republic to the south of us, from girlhood I was trained by a grandmother who had strict old country ideas, and later by the sisters of the Holy Cross I was taught to look on England as a shining example of what royalty could show to the rest of the world. That was taught, despite that conduct of England towards the colonies which made them rebel. Queen Victoria, later her son, then her grandson and then her great grandson have all been