

the Honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig) has said, and we are therefore most fortunate in the selection of honourable senators to move and second the Address.

I feel it was most appropriate that the honourable junior senator from Winnipeg, as the Leader of the Opposition referred to him yesterday, moved the Address. He was born of Ukrainian parents. He has a wide knowledge of conditions in Eastern Europe and in Asia, and can speak feelingly on what is taking place today in Hungary. In his speech he told us that in the land of his parents there are conditions similar to those in Hungary today, where there is no freedom and the people are under the iron heel of Russia.

The honourable junior senator from Winnipeg has also a wide knowledge of Canada. Furthermore, he has been one of Canada's delegates to the United Nations, and the experience gained through mingling with representatives of many countries of the world made him all the more qualified to move, as he did so eloquently, the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

I wish also to say how very pleased I was to hear the address by the seconder, the honourable senator from de Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Fournier). I had the privilege of hearing him speak in the House of Commons, and therefore anticipated an outstanding address from him. The main part of his speech was in French, and in that language I shall now congratulate him and make a brief comment upon one of the points that he made.

(Translation):

I wish to congratulate the honourable senator who seconded the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. As we all know, he is an experienced parliamentarian, so that the clarity and excellence of the remarks he made both in English and in French surprised no one and we would like to express to him our sincere appreciation.

In the course of his speech yesterday, the honourable senator from DeLanaudière mentioned that we should have a distinctive national flag and I am sure that most honourable senators agree with him. However, as we have had occasion to note recently, public opinion on this point is far from being unanimous in the different parts of our country. I think we are all of the opinion that a national flag might help to unify our great Canadian nation, but it should not tend to divide us or cause dissension among us. There is no doubt whatever that the moment Canadians can agree on the question, Canada will have its own flag.

(Text):

Honourable senators, the Leader of the Opposition in his opening remarks yesterday referred to certain subjects which he would not discuss at this time because this is an emergency session of Parliament. I am grateful to him for giving me notice of the subjects which he proposes to discuss when Parliament reassembles in January, and I assure him that he will be well satisfied with the action the Government is taking in regard to all these matters. The Government is giving full consideration to a satisfactory solution of these problems he mentioned, and when we meet here next session Canada will still be one of the most prosperous countries in the world and one of the most desirable in which to live.

I do not agree with all that the Leader of the Opposition said in his speech today. He said he spoke for himself, and I hope that is true, because I do not believe he spoke for any large segment of the Canadian people. I doubt very much that he spoke for his party; certainly, he did not claim to do so. I would have preferred that he did not make the speech he made today, because I believe that if Canada and the other nations had taken the attitude which he advocates we would have now been involved in a world war.

Hon. Mr. Horner: What if we are involved in one anyway, sooner or later?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: The Leader of the Opposition suggested that the United States and Russia might come to grips. Now, honourable senators, I am sure that if those two countries come to grips it will mean the end of the world. That is the very situation we are trying to avoid. Canada, in all her actions, has done nothing to injure either the United Kingdom or France. Our every effort has been not only to save the United Kingdom and France from a world war, but to preserve peace for the world. I shall refer in more detail later to some of the other remarks which my honourable friend made when, as he said, he was speaking for himself.

However, I did agree with the honourable leader opposite when he said that we are living in very difficult times. Quite apart from what has taken place in the Suez area, we have witnessed as brutal and criminal a betrayal of the Hungarian people as has ever been known in the history of the world. Those people are asking for nothing more than the right to run their own affairs free from communistic colonial domination, but yet Soviet tanks and Soviet guns were sent into that country and many thousands of those wonderful people were mercilessly butchered.