

was a reception at Government House. Mr. Burton, the member for Humbolt in another place, asked me when the reception was to be held, and I said it was Tuesday at six. On that day we arrived at Government House, perhaps five minutes early, and to our surprise found that no other delegates were there. A page-boy happened to come along and I told him who we were, so he notified an *aide de camp*. When the *aide* came it was five minutes after six, and I remarked to him that we appeared to be a little early, although our invitation was for six o'clock. He said, "Yes, the reception is at six o'clock, but it is not until Friday evening."

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Where had you been just before?

Hon. Mr. Haig: Anyway, we were at the reception on Friday, and among the persons whom I had the pleasure of meeting there were some of the officers of the British cruiser *Achilles*, which played such a wonderful part in the battle of the River Plate, when the German battle ship *Admiral Graf Spee* was chased into harbour. I feel that gatherings such as the Parliamentary Conference do much to foster friendship between nations, and certainly between representatives of various nations. I know that I personally benefitted by my attendance at the Bermuda conference, and I am sure that the honourable senator from Essex (Hon. Mr. Lacasse) and our fellow delegates from the House of Commons would say the same for themselves. There are some stories that I could tell about my honourable friend from Essex, but I promise to keep them a secret so long as he does not tell stories on me. Seriously, we had a profitable as well as a most pleasant time and were proud to be able to do what we could there on behalf of Canada.

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson: Honourable senators, I was in London at the time of the news that the illness of His Majesty made it necessary to postpone the projected tour of the King and Queen to Australia and New Zealand; and I was in Glasgow when the birth of a son and heir to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh was announced. On each occasion I sensed the deep interest and concern of the people of the United Kingdom in the welfare of the Royal family. This interest and concern is shared by the people throughout the commonwealth, in whose hearts the Royal Family holds an intimate place, and I am sure we all concur in the sentiments so well expressed along this line by the honourable leader opposite.

I had intended to follow my honourable friend today in this debate, but if I carried out this plan I might not be able to do justice to some of the points that he has made; there-

fore, after dealing with one or two matters, I may ask permission of the house to adjourn the debate until next week.

I am sure we all listened with the greatest pleasure to the speech of the mover (Hon. Mr. Farquhar) and that of the seconder (Hon. Mr. Comeau) of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I heartily concur in their references to Mr. Mackenzie King, who for so long has occupied the position of leader of the Liberal party and Prime Minister. I heartily concur also in the remarks of the leader opposite (Hon. Mr. Haig) with respect to the new leaders of the Liberal and Conservative parties in Canada. Whatever difference of opinion there may be as to their respective policies, I am sure we all agree that Canada is very fortunate in having men of such high calibre occupying these prominent positions in our public life.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Robertson: The arguments of the mover of the Address (Hon. Mr. Farquhar) were exceedingly well marshalled and clearly stated. As a free trader I had much pleasure in listening to his plea for lower tariffs and freer trade. But I know he will understand me when I say that my heart was especially touched by the speech of the seconder, the honourable gentleman from Digby-Clare (Hon. Mr. Comeau), whose constituency is so close to my own. He has had a long experience in public life and he represents one of the minorities in Nova Scotia. As I listened to him it struck me that his presence here was further proof of the wisdom inherent in our system of parliamentary representation, of which system we have a good example in the Senate. For instance, there is no statute providing that any particular sections or any particular groups in Nova Scotia shall have senatorial representation, yet there is what amounts almost to an unwritten law that all the various sections and groups shall be represented, and in the result we have a very happy arrangement. When I was in Europe last year I realized how true it is that racial questions are at the base of a great deal of the bitterness and dissension troubling that continent and indeed much of the world, and I was more than ever impressed by the successful way in which we have handled our problem here. Canada has by common sense and fair dealing on the part of different groups that have been in power at various times, set an example to the world. The Senate was created for the protection of minorities, and is a living example of fair dealing. But there has rarely been a time since confederation when this house has had to exercise its power in that