

The Address—Mr. MacDougall

recognize what used to appear in the early school readers when I quote:

By Nebo's lonely mountain,
On this side Jordan's wave,
In a vale in the land of Moab,
There lies a lonely grave.

And no man knows that sepulchre,
And no man saw it e'er,
For the angels of God upturned the sod,
And laid the dead man there.

These intellectual giants seem to come in groups. When they depart the earth is desolate, but sooner or later another group appears and once more intellect blooms like the rose of Sharon. Whether the intellectual giants produce the golden age or the golden age produces the intellectual giants is debatable. However, during the Socratic period we had a stellar aggregation of intellects which caused Byron to write:

Of the three hundred grant but three,
To make a new Thermopylae.

Then let us move the clock forward another thousand years or so to the glory that was Rome. Standing head and shoulders above his contemporaries was the mighty Michelangelo. His first great work in Rome was the Pieta, which depicted Mary the Mother supporting in her arms the body of Christ just after it has been removed from the cross. It created a tremendous sensation; thousands have flocked to admire it. His next great work was in the chapel of the church in Florence, which is so well known. While speaking of Michelangelo we cannot forget his work in the Sistine chapel, which stands as a memorial to his great achievements, skill and capacity, a monument to the true principles of Christian philosophy and Christian belief.

Such is a kaleidoscopic review of a few of the famous men of history. In making a critical analysis of their lives one fails in many instances to discern the chief element in their makeup which has marked them for fame.

I return now to the reference I originally made to an address delivered a few days ago by the hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker). Who knows but amongst the members of the house, whether new or old, we may be sitting with, co-operating with, or fighting with some potential genius of the next five, ten or fifteen years? Therefore I bring those instances to the attention of the house because I believe there is something dynamic in the past that points the way to the future, and that if we are really cognizant of humanity's foibles, from which it has recuperated in the past, and its triumphs, we can go forward with greater courage and with a greater sense that we

are going to be able to contribute something to the welfare of the individual and collective membership of the house, not only on the government side but in all groups represented in the first session of the twenty-first parliament of Canada.

It is with these ideas, Mr. Speaker, that I leave the thought with you that, whether or not we come down here determined that we are going to turn democracy upside down overnight, we have to be cognizant of the lessons of history. From the time of Adam down to the present there have been outstanding examples of men who have risen above any potential discouragement, any inhibiting factors in their way that might in any way have barred, hindered or impeded their progress toward greater things. I close on this note. I believe that, in spite of any minor frustrations that we may face either individually or collectively, we, like those who have gone before, will be able to rise triumphantly above them and contribute something to the greater development of the Dominion of Canada for all the people of Canada, for all electors, whether they have sent members to the government side or in support of the opposition. Through our endeavours we will leave our mark in and contribution to the future progress of those yet unborn in this vast dominion, from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Mr. Angus MacInnis (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, my first words are very pleasant ones to me, as they are words of congratulation to you on your elevation to your very honourable position. I have known the hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Macdonald) since he came here in 1935. I have always had a high regard for his fairness, reasonableness, and modesty in dealing with the matters that came before the house. I hope he will enjoy his position, and I rather think, from what has happened earlier in this debate, and the sweet reasonableness of the official opposition, that he is going to have a very easy time of it. I hope, however—and there are signs that my hopes will be realized—that not all sections of the opposition will lessen any of the normal activities of opposition members just because the electorate, perhaps in a fit of aberration, elected the government with a very large majority.

It is a fact that the government has a large majority, and as a believer in the principles of democracy I accept the verdict of the people; but I only accept it in so far as the government has been elected with the rights and responsibilities of government. What I want to point out, not only to the opposition, but also to the members on the government side of the house, and those members of the