

*Speech from the Throne*

as much as people would like, but a lot more than some other people would have given to us, bankrupting the nation in the process. The Canadian Bill of Rights was a praiseworthy attempt by the federal power to provide a standard by which the rights of all Canadians might be measured and enforced. But you will find many of the provinces were too small minded to accept it. Then, there was the Canadian flag. There is nobody today who does not take our flag for granted. They would feel like idiots if we did not have the Canadian flag, but the move to adopt it had to be started by federal initiative.

Our peacekeeping role with the United Nations has been a useful one. Our insistence at the federal level on the principle of regional equality of opportunity is another example of federal initiative. I agree that it has not been reached, but the principle is there and we stand by the principle. We are attempting more and more to carry through that principle. So, without a strong federal power, who can imagine the existence of a meaningful Canada still rising to the challenge of removing the barriers that inhibit people from coming close to their full potential?

The federal government, by encouraging the flowering of cultures other than English and French, has turned our country's back once and for all on the insidious and deadly concept of the melting pot. It has held firmly to the position that no province or region of Canada can have, or is entitled to, special powers. In the early spring of 1972 our nation has at last caught up with a number of issues that seemed to be key issues for debate in the 1960's. I suggest that now is the time to turn our sights in some other directions. The post war era is passed. All over the world it is dead and gone. Quite suddenly we find ourselves in a new worldwide ball game in which not all of the rules have been defined. The current move of the United States to reach a detente with the Republic of China and its frantic activities on the trading and monetary fronts, combined with Britain's imminent entry into the European Common Market, can leave no doubt of this. Canada, if it wishes to remain independent and as sovereign as any nation can be today, must understand and acknowledge the cardinal fact that she is on her own.

I suppose we could side with the forces of protectionism in the United States and strive to become an insignificant appendage within a sort of fortress western hemisphere. If we did so, the instrument for achieving that would be the party which is wagged by the tail of the dog of protectionism of the big unions in the United States which are the prime force behind the protectionist movement there, as I understand it. But I do not think that will come to pass, even though it would ensure that we would not have to agonize over every decision for long. The decisions would be made for us in Washington. Surely, it would both deny our own heritage as a trading nation and renege on our own *raison d'être*, while guaranteeing our own decline and fall. Such a move would not only guarantee our own decline and fall, but also the decline and fall of the incipient Caribbean nations as well as the decline and fall of the South American nations.

• (1610)

A hundred and forty years ago Charles Darwin began to think out his theory of evolution when, as a young

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naturalist, he went ashore from H.M.S. *Beagle* to make a trip into the interior of Brazil. During that trip he observed that, in nature, nothing was safe; to prey and to be preyed upon was the condition of existence. Each species had to adapt itself or face extinction. I submit that this lesson is urgently relevant for mankind today. Just as Canada cannot survive without the deliberate encouragement of prosperity and cultural diversity in its various regions, so the world cannot survive without deliberate and continuous attempts to achieve prosperity and well-being wherever men may live. The United Nations may some day evolve into a federation of co-operating world powers. I think we can safely say that we have passed the dangerous stage when it could have become the ultimate nightmare, the world-wide universal state. Indeed, tolerance and trade are the key elements required for the continued survival of both federal Canada and the world. Anybody who suggests that Canada does not need to trade should just look at the figures relating to per capita trade and the percentage of our gross national product that is generated by trade. We are vitally interested in freeing trade wherever it can be freed. We cannot solve the problems of trade in the world alone.

On the domestic scene, no single province or provincial government can solve the problem even of its own region without doing so in a federal context with the federal power providing the necessary initiative. That is why it is so important that this House, composed of men and women elected from all the regions of Canada, should persist in its efforts and not allow itself to be overshadowed at any time by any provincial legislature.

It is important for us today to answer one question: upon what industries should we concentrate? What development goals should we have, either to raise incomes or create jobs? Where will our trade markets be and what should our trade policy be? Should we move toward a common continental market or search for new, overseas markets? Where do we want growth to occur? Do we want it only within our three largest cities, which is what is now happening, or do we want growth to be spread across the entire land? At first glance, some may think that discussing such matters as industrial development means that we are ignoring our social problems. I submit that you cannot separate the two. We have a pie, and if you talk solely about special programs you are only talking about how that pie is to be divided. Today, the time has come for us to examine the machine that actually makes the pie, because we have more and more people and we need a larger pie to distribute. We sense, today, a need to co-ordinate all our policies in order to be certain that we are charting a clear and consistent course for our future.

The growth of western Canada is probably one of the most significant changes that has occurred within Canada since the Fathers of Confederation brought unity to our eastern provinces. The time has now come, and I am talking as a westerner, to go beyond talking only about western identity and western rights. We must talk about our new west, and examine how our new west is actually providing real opportunities for the new national policies demanded in our era. You see, this country was built and modelled on the fur trade. The building of the CPR followed that model, and our trade and transport system shifted from west to the east, to France, England and