

*The Address—Mrs. Shipley*

She had known that our Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs and others were highly regarded in the international field and that Canada was rapidly becoming one of the key nations, but what she did not know was that this warmth and trust were ready and waiting to be extended to Canadians as individuals.

She said she had come abroad proud to be a Canadian, but she is going to come back twice as proud and, in addition, with an understanding of other people in other countries that she never had before. She said she used to feel sorry for people who did not enjoy all the amenities of life as we know them in Canada; but now she knows that a streamlined kitchen is not everything; that the people with whom she came in contact over there, if given a choice between physical comforts and the financial wherewithal to maintain their beautiful parks, monuments and historic buildings, would not hesitate to choose the latter. She said something more that I think a great many older people, who should be wiser, have not yet learned, that in helping others we should help them to help themselves in their own way, because what we feel is an essential in our life might be the last thing they would want.

One frequently reads in our newspapers criticism of Canadians. They state that we are not proud enough, that we are inclined to be a little too critical of our own country, and so on. I wonder whether this is so. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that this very national characteristic is perhaps one of our greatest assets. The Canadian abroad is not a pushing or demanding person, though I do not mean he can be pushed around. We are quiet but we are also firm. In fact I think I can sum it up best by saying that I am very proud that we act like ladies and gentlemen.

To get back to NATO, my opinion is perhaps not worth very much on such an important and complex question. Nevertheless I am the mother of children who would be in the thick of any war that might involve Canada. I am convinced that not only must we make every effort to keep NATO strong, but we must become more active in sponsoring an intimate friendship and understanding between NATO countries and their peoples. This must be done or in my opinion there is grave danger of those who would like to see us quarrelling with each other and mistrusting each other having some success. NATO is too vital to our well-being and to peace in this world to allow us to sit idly by and just hope for the best. We not only must do these things but if more

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financial support and more men and materials are deemed necessary we should not hesitate to provide them.

I was deeply impressed with one paragraph in the statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) following the most recent NATO meeting, to the effect that the meeting emphasized that we cannot relax either in defence or in diplomacy in the face of new Soviet tactics. He said that this was agreed by all, and that if the Soviet union can be made to realize the determination of the fifteen NATO members to work closely together to resist aggression and infiltration, the world will be spared a lot of unnecessary trouble.

At the time of the Geneva conference I was very worried because so many people seemed to think that the peace proposals would immediately make these defence measures unnecessary. It is my firm conviction, Mr. Speaker, that so long as there is a single country of any size whose people are not free to come and go at will, to read what they wish, and across whose borders we may not go freely and unaccompanied, then we are not safe from aggression.

Being a definite supporter of the short and, if possible, pertinent speech, I do not intend to take advantage of the honour accorded me today and speak at great length. However, I must avail myself of tradition and say something about my constituency, Timiskaming, that part of the great province of Ontario that starts approximately 100 miles north of North Bay, runs to within 250 miles of James bay and east and west 100 miles. We have a population of over 50,000 people. Mining, lumbering and farming are our major fields of employment. Lumbering carries with it all the seasonal unemployment problems.

The lower belt of the riding spreading east and west from Cobalt is chiefly rock, more or less mineralized. The upper belt spreading from Kirkland Lake is the same. In the centre spreading from New Liskeard we have the small clay belt. This soil, although it is limited in area, produces fine crops, particularly root vegetables of outstanding flavour and excellence.

The mines have created untold wealth for the nation, employment for thousands, a ready market for the produce of the local farmer, and modern municipalities have also been created. With the present price of gold and the inevitable depletion of ore reserves, these municipalities are now facing serious problems. The development of the north country has all taken place in the short period of the past 50 years. In 1904 the first claims were staked at Larder Lake. The second