

late very warmly the government and the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton).

The people of Quebec have followed with legitimate pride the feats of arms of the Royal 22nd Regiment in Korea. These achievements and others that I could mention have given us very great satisfaction.

In the international sphere, I must draw attention to the various international conferences held in Canada, the Commonwealth Forestry Association's conference, that of the International Red Cross, held in Toronto and, finally, the conference held by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, in which we are specially interested.

It is interesting to note that nearly one hundred delegates, representing forty-eight sections of the association, accepted the invitation of the Canadian section to attend that parliamentary conference. It is also interesting to note that representatives of the United States of America and of the republic of Ireland took part in some of the debates, during that conference.

During their stay in Canada, the delegates of the commonwealth nations had the privilege of visiting Canada from coast to coast and of familiarizing themselves with our Canadian institutions.

Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate you in your capacity as joint chairman of the Canadian section, along with all those who co-operated with you in making this meeting and this journey such outstanding successes.

There is yet another example of the high regard in which the nations of the world hold Canada and its representatives, and that is the election of Mr. Pearson as president of the general assembly of the United Nations Organization.

It might be well to recall that the Right Hon. the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Abbott) will attend at the end of this month, in London, a meeting of commonwealth prime ministers which has been called to discuss ways and means of solving the monetary troubles of Great Britain.

From a national point of view, Mr. Speaker, it is only fair to mention the numerous advantages which accrue every day to every Canadian through the health assistance plan put into effect by the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Recognizing the value of our human resources, the Canadian government has promoted the extension of health and hospital facilities, the multiplication of the number of

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hospital beds, by providing the provinces with considerable sums for this very purpose, these grants running into several million dollars.

It has given this help, not by substituting itself for the provinces, but on the contrary, with their co-operation, by acting jointly with them in the implementation of this great undertaking.

In announcing some of the bills to be brought down, the governor general has proved beyond doubt the great concern shown by the government for the preservation of the high standard of living enjoyed by our people, as well as for the consideration which should be given to all classes of our people. Incidentally, the government's intention of improving the rural mail carrier's lot should receive the unanimous support of all members of this house.

In pursuance of the Massey commission's report, and following the assistance given to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the universities approved by the provinces, the act respecting the establishment of a national library will receive without any doubt the support of all Canadians, who see in the implementation of such a project a measure which meets the intellectual and cultural needs of our nation.

In this connection, may I mention the justified tribute which was rendered, last September, by the academic world of Canada to Quebec's Laval university, on the occasion of its centenary, thus recognizing this university's contribution to the intellectual development of our country.

The bill concerning the St. Lawrence seaway bears witness to the industrial and economic expansion of our country. This vast project, which will make the very centre of the North American continent accessible from every ocean, will tighten the geographic links which exist with the other free countries, whose peoples are already morally won over to the Canadian ideal.

Because of all this, Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to move, seconded by the hon. member for Waterloo North (Mr. Schneider):

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, C.H., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.