

ain inhabited by a strong and virile race whose destiny it is to hold its own in the world of nations. It is, therefore, high time that we in Canada, with this destiny before us, should be united and inspired in hewing out for ourselves that position of prominence for which we are destined and which we shall achieve. For the next generation the questions that thus face us are so overwhelmingly great and afford such a field for our attention and patriotic effort as should obliterate all the petty differences which in the past have so largely prevented Canada from rising above its provincial issues and taking its place among the other great nations of civilization.

It is a matter of interest to the Senate that at this the first session of this Parliament we meet with a substantially increased representation of the four western provinces within this Chamber. By this increased representation expression has been given to the four great divisions of Canada represented in this Chamber by four groups of 24 members each, namely, 24 members from the Maritime Provinces, 24 members from the province of Quebec, 24 members from the province of Ontario, and 24 members from the provinces between the Great Lakes and the Pacific coast. Although there is this grouping by divisions of the different sections of Canada, I feel assured in saying that this grouping will not be sectional but merely numerical; that instead of any sectional feeling being promoted thereby there will be a rivalry on the part of each to excel the others in promoting the best interests of Canada and in establishing that unity and effort of purpose by which alone the national spirit of our people will be fostered and reflected in making the name of Canada great among the sisterhood of nations.

It is unnecessary for me to dwell at any length upon the legislation which will be brought down during the present session by the Government. This is fairly foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne. The measures therein mentioned are all of a general and of an important character, and I have no doubt that the best attention of the Senate will be given to the consideration of these measures before placing them upon the statute-book. The public business before us will apparently not be of a very large volume, and important though it is I bespeak a short but useful and successful session.

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable gentlemen, I must join my voice to those of the leaders of this House in con-

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED.

gratulating the mover and the seconder of the Address on the apt way in which they discharged their duty. In these congratulations I wish to include the new senators whom I welcome to this Chamber as colleagues for life. I remember that when I first came here, I thought that was for a long time—I was quite a young man then—but I now realize that this is but a passage, and that familiar faces are constantly disappearing and new faces coming in their stead. For this reason it is all the more urgent that the new members should follow the advice of the honourable the leader of this House and promptly identify themselves with the work that comes before this Chamber, because the seniors will not be long with them.

I must add, Mr. Speaker, that we are glad to see you at your post. We on this side of the House feel that you are nearer to us than to the gentlemen who sit on your right. We feel this because of the traditions of the Chair which you occupy. The Speaker is not there to protect the majority, which can always protect itself, but to protect the rights of the minority, which is at the mercy of the majority. We feel secure in your hands.

There was never any disagreement in this Chamber as to the furthering of the cause of the Allies to the best of the ability of each member. We have all wanted the Allies to win the war. It is still our ardent wish that they should win the war. There is some pessimism permeating the country, or some sections of the country, by reason of the fact that Russia has broken down. My sole regret lies in the fact that it will retard the victory of the allies, but in that victory I have the most absolute confidence. I have that confidence because of what Germany could not accomplish when she was prepared, as we all know she was—because Germany, prepared as she was, was defeated at the Marne; and what she could not accomplish then she cannot accomplish now.

You all read the affirmation of the representative of the French Government at Washington, Mr. André Tardieu, who recently declared that France was not bled white, but that France had a million more men in the field to-day than in September, 1914. Not only has France a million more men, but she has a perfect equipment in artillery, which she lacked in September, 1914. The small, "contemptible" British unit has developed into a formidable army, and our