

all across the country. Reference was made also to the words of the present Prime Minister in the blue and white election document which we have seen waved in the house from time to time. Surely all Canadians agree that Canada has a great future, but this resolution is not the proper means by which to bring it about. We have seen this fine document put out by our party on many occasions. I believe the hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Murphy) has read from it from time to time. In view of his dedication to the document and the useful knowledge that he must have gained from reading it, we sometimes wonder why he does not cross the floor of the house. Let us, however, look at the problem in more detail.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Have you read it yourself?

**Mr. Best:** Oh, very much so. The eight weeks that have passed since the historic opening of parliament by Her Majesty the Queen have been most heartening and fruitful. From the wording of the resolution one would perhaps think not.

**Mr. Winch:** I understand now why it has taken you two months to get to your feet.

**Mr. Hamilton (York West):** That is un-called for.

**Mr. Best:** It seems to me that in the past the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Winch) has said that he is a socialist and therefore, he is practical. I would say, sir, that this resolution is the greatest example of impracticality that I have seen in my short time in the house.

**Mr. Winch:** I hope you will be here when I speak.

**An hon. Member:** Sit down.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** All that is wrong with it is that the Conservatives did not move it.

**Mr. Best:** Under the leadership of the Prime Minister and the members of his cabinet, we have seen the unveiling of a program of wise and constructive policies long since due. We would hope, Mr. Speaker, that this is only a beginning, that vigorous and far-reaching projects will be planned for the future and that the heavy burdens of cabinet responsibility and administration will not paralyse initiative and vision as they have for so many years past.

Let us look at this resolution in a more specific way. The county of Halton, which I have the honour to represent, is an old and

historic riding, unchanged since confederation these last 90 years. Within its boundaries, it contains almost every conceivable variety of occupation and outlook. It is, in many respects, a detailed cross section of eastern Canada. The effects of the St. Lawrence seaway, of the automobile and aircraft industries, of agriculture, of construction, the vast problems of roads and services and above all of education, are brought together and felt more keenly, perhaps, in my riding than in most others.

For many years the population growth of our country, and my riding, for they are identical, has been the largest in Ontario, closely followed by that of Peel, whose hon. member has recently led our NATO delegation to Paris. Together our ridings stretch from Toronto to Hamilton, from the shores of lake Ontario to the higher land miles to the north. Halton is the home of the giant Ford assembly plant, as well as the location of a host of smaller industries; the residence of thousands of workers commuting to the aircraft factories at Malton and the employees in the Hamilton and Toronto areas. Through our lands pass the major arteries of transportation, superhighways and many lines of both major railway companies. The vast and rapid growth of population has brought with it numerous problems of servicing and safety. The extension of postal deliveries and the improvement and gradual elimination of level crossings are matters which demand close attention.

We may be more aware than most of the necessity for change and planning that this resolution indicates. As a matter of fact, I would feel that the greatest anniversary committee—possibly I am prejudiced in this—could be, and will be, the same Conservative government that is sitting here now, giving leadership, unity, ideals and action, as it did 100 years before in the heroic days of Macdonald and Cartier.

If I may be pardoned for a few moments, sir. I have always felt, as I have strolled in the years past and now down that sort of philosopher's walk past the statue of Macdonald, a feeling of reverence and history, and in the light and the glow of that great picture hanging in the west end of this building, the confidence in Canada that must have been his. How came it to such a man, troubled and trialed by personal problems and great burdens, to take into his hands time and time again the task of uniting this far-flung land. We are now dedicated to do the same thing.

The government may be congratulated, I feel, on a return to a policy of national unity. The measures outlined in the throne