

my view of politics it is not what you say you are going to do that matters, it is what you do.

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, at the outset I want to compliment my colleague the Hon. Member for Simcoe North (Mr. Lewis) for bringing forth a very timely motion. I endorse the content of the motion and the Hon. Member's comments condemning the Government for prolonging the session beyond all reason and challenging it to bring on a new session of Parliament, a new Speech from the Throne, to provide, hopefully, for some new direction and responsible leadership.

I must say that the rather hollow defence of the Government House Leader leads one to conclude that the Government has not only lost control of the economic affairs of this country, but it has clearly lost control of the orderly conduct of parliamentary business as well.

I intend to comment briefly on the remarks of my friend the Acting House Leader for the New Democratic Party because I was rather surprised at his rather frivolous and superficial approach to the thrust of the motion.

**Mr. Deans:** Tell the unemployed.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Clearly I think it is a responsibility of the Government from time to time to come forth with its policies, its new directions and its thrust in dealing with the day to day issues of the country. The Government should be held accountable for its action or inaction. We are now dealing with a set of thrusts and programs that go back to 1980, many of which are now out of date. I think it is incumbent upon the Government from time to time to set out its priorities and programs and to indicate to Parliament and the Canadian people how it intends to deal with the issues at hand. Parliament can then be the judge. Parliament can judge the record of the Government's performance, both its action and its inaction. Today we are really floundering because the Speech from the Throne introduced back in 1980 is largely outdated.

I want to deal with the section of the motion which states as follows:

That this House condemns the Government for its failure to live up to the commitments made in the Speech from the Throne on April 14, 1980—

One would need more than 20 minutes to enunciate all the failures of this Government to live up to its promises. When one examines this Government's record of performance, one can only conclude that Canada and Canadians have been cheated. They have been cheated by a Liberal Party that has misled and tricked the Canadian electorate. This is reflected not only in its dismal record of managing the economy but also in unfulfilled promises. There are many and I can certainly highlight one, the promise of cheap gasoline. Today we find our gasoline is worth about 30 cents or 40 cents a gallon more than gasoline sold in the United States. We have a 69-cent series of federal taxes. It is a far cry from the 18-cent tax we proposed and the expectation of cheap gasoline on which the Liberals campaigned.

### *Supply*

There is a feeling of mistrust among the people created by the Government. The Government was deviously silent on a number of issues, such as the dismantling of the Crow and the 20 per cent dismantling of the rail passenger service in this country. Most people would call that sleazy politics or refer to it as intellectual dishonesty.

Let us look at the Speech from the Throne last April 14, 1980, Mr. Speaker, and at the Government's undertaking to achieve energy self-security at a fair price for all Canadians. Instead of that what we got was the infamous ad which cost \$1 million suggesting that energy security was that far away. No progress has been made in the direction of energy security. Clearly as far as prices are concerned, we have not taken the opportunity our energy advantage gives us in this country to turn it to our economic advantage, neither to that of the industry nor that of the consumer.

The Speech from the Throne set out to promote a national development policy that would provide jobs, stimulate growth, build upon regional strengths and increase Canadian ownership and control of the economy. Those promises in the Speech from the Throne have been total failures. We have 1.8 million people unemployed and numerous business going under. The Government's policy has not provided a business climate in any one region of Canada let alone where regional disparities still exist.

The Government set out to strengthen national institutions. The political imbalance that existed before 1980 still exists today. The Government also undertook to ensure that Canada plays a vigorous part in the world beyond its borders. We are almost the laughing stock of the industrialized world, given our record and the fact that our relationships with the United States have never been at a lower ebb.

• (1230)

Let us look at the rhetoric with respect to national unity. The Speech from the Throne went on at great length about the difficulties in each region and the fact that there was bitterness and concern about the economic welfare of various regions. In part the Speech from the Throne stated:

To all these forces of discontent my Government has one clear response. Canada will endure, grow and prosper.

It went on:

The renewed federalism, to which my Government makes a fundamental and all-embracing commitment, will not only strengthen individual and collective rights and freedoms, it will also ensure that Canada remains:

- a strong country . . .
- a country that regards diversity as an asset . . .
- a country whose people share their wealth first with those who need it most;
- a country that encourages initiative, welcomes daring, and promotes enterprise;—

When we look at what the Government has done in terms of its approach to the constitutional changes and to the National Energy Program, we all know the dismal record of disharmony, discord and bitterness which has penetrated the country from coast to coast. In many cases it has resulted in outright anger. What bothers Canadians most is that during the course