

The Address—Mr. Stollery

the city of Toronto without visiting my constituency. That is where many of the hotels are, the shopping, a great part of the waterfront and so many of the things that make Toronto a great city. Toronto city hall, in my constituency, is where so many community political decisions have been made in recent years. This is such a liveable city that it is envied by people across North America and by students of city planning around the world.

● (1420)

The name Spadina, as is known to many hon. members and to many Canadians who live far from Toronto, is the name of the defunct Spadina expressway, that landmark which has become synonymous with the questioning of growth and with the questioning of values of city life and the way we in the cities are growing. I was connected with that issue and in fact it was one of the things that led to my involvement in politics and my own personal decision that if one is going to have strong opinions on issues, the only choice is to become involved in politics in this country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stollery: Spadina is a famous immigrant riding as well, different from nearly all the other immigrant ridings in this country such as those represented by my colleagues, the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Haidasz), the hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia), the hon. member for York Centre (Mr. Walker), the hon. member for York West (Mr. Fleming), the hon. member for Saint-Michel (Miss Bégin), the hon. member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme), the hon. member for Montreal-Bourassa (Mr. Trudel) and the hon. member for Vancouver Centre (Mr. Basford). Spadina is unique because it is a receiving area for immigrants. For over 100 years people have been coming into the riding in waves: first from England, the people who gave the name to Kensington market which the Prime Minister visited a couple of years ago, then people from central Europe at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, and more recently it has become the home of many thousand Portuguese and Chinese. The last census registered 33 languages in this constituency.

However, the unique factor is that the people tend to come into the area, spend their first years in Canada there, and then as they adapt to Canada they tend to move on. It has probably the lowest citizenship rate of any riding in the country. It is common knowledge that this is one of the reasons Spadina, with a population of some 90,000, has only about 27,000 voters, one of the eighth or ninth smallest voting populations in Canada. Curiously enough, many of these voters are not immigrants. In fact, in the riding I represent is located the largest apartment shopping complex in the world, with 1,000 people in one building.

I have always been interested in Canada's immigrant policies, even before I became a member representing an area which has this traditional involvement with immigrants. It has been my personal belief, reinforced by my travels to more than 100 countries in the world, that a country is made better by the influx of many people from cosmopolitan backgrounds who bring with them new ways of life to refresh the culture and the social environment.

[Mr. Stollery.]

All these things make us better people, more conscious of the wider world around us.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stollery: It is common knowledge that our Prime Minister enjoys a great deal of prestige outside Canada as well as in Canada. I should like to take a moment at this point to congratulate the Prime Minister on his successful intervention with Russian authorities on behalf of Mr. Eugene Lenko in Kiev.

[Translation]

During the adjournment, a few weeks ago, the world has witnessed an example of repression when Soljenitsyn was dispossessed of his Soviet citizenship and sent into exile. I am sure several of us hope that the government of that great nation which is the U.S.S.R., will some day liberalize its policy with respect to human rights and allow its subjects a greater freedom of expression.

[English]

Many of us must hope there will be more instances where the Soviet government will release members of families of Canadians who live in the Soviet Union, and that the sort of thing done in respect of Mr. Lenko can be done more often. Again I congratulate the Prime Minister.

It seems to me that in the Speech from the Throne which we have received from the Governor General there are three main themes, three important concerns of all Canadians—the supply of energy, the supply of food, and economic opportunities for the west.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stollery: Here in Canada we have a unique energy situation, one that is more complex than in almost any other country.

An hon. Member: Why?

Mr. Stollery: If you will listen for a minute, you might find out. In other countries of the world the energy situation is simple; either you are a consuming, energy-short nation or you are an oil exporting nation. Canada is both a consuming and a producing nation. This situation requires from the government of Canada policies which are quite different from any other country in the world. The announcement in the throne speech of an international petroleum company to assure greater Canadian presence, participation in and control of the petroleum industry is an important statement. We Canadians have been fortunate, and just how fortunate had not occurred to me until I was in central America.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stollery: As many members will know, the countries of the central American common market have a close economic connection with Florida. The usual things for a traveller to read to get his news, in addition to the local Spanish newspapers and *El Nacional*, the Mexican newspaper, are the English papers from Miami. It brings the seriousness of the situation very much closer when you read a newspaper which says the local gas stations are only open two or three hours a day, and that cars with odd