

S. O. 31

RIDING OF CHAMBLY

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, yesterday in Saint-Bruno in the riding of Chambly, the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Bouchard), who is also the government's "godfather" for ridings on the south shore of Montreal, made another fine election promise to the voters in that constituency. This promise had already been made by his colleague, the Minister of Communications, during the last election campaign when the Progressive Conservative Party was doing everything to re-elect Richard Grisé. We know now where the promises made in the last election got him! The voters in Chambly also remember another promise from the Minister of Transport (Mr. Bouchard) made on behalf of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) the day after the Saint-Basile-le-Grand disaster.

Once again, this government has made a promise that it did not keep. The people of Chambly deserve better than Conservative or Liberal promises. Mr. Speaker, they deserve a real member of Parliament, a New Democrat!

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Mr. Michel Champagne (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Forestry)): Mr. Speaker, I hope people in the constituency of Chambly have realized how much contempt the New Democratic Party has for this institution, this House of Commons.

Last night, it must have been very clear to them that, rather than work at extremely important legislation, the New Democratic Party chose to waste the time of the House of Commons and its members by shamefully challenging the rulings of the Chair.

How can people in the constituency of Chambly take seriously the comments of the New Democratic Party candidate, who wants to represent and defend them in this House, when in fact his party's ultimate goal is to prevent this institution from working properly.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude on this word of caution to the constituents in Chambly: Remember that during the 1988 election, Ed Broadbent and his gang supported Meech Lake and the "distinct society" clause.

Mr. Nystrom: Not all of them!

Mr. Champagne (Champlain): After that election, they all reneged on that Agreement, thereby refusing to recognize the historical legitimacy of Quebecers. We might expect the same from the so-called "star" candidate who quite clearly has no political clout in his own party.

Mr. Nystrom: He will be elected.

Mr. Champagne (Champlain): And, more ironic still, he has the gall to refer to honesty.

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[English]

BILINGUALISM AND BICULTURALISM

Mr. Bob Kilger (Stormont—Dundas): Mr. Speaker, today is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism.

[Translation]

In their report, the Laurendeau-Dunton Commission suggested that Canada was going through the worst crisis in its history. History seems to be repeating itself today. Unfortunately, language equality is far from being achieved. To ensure equality between both official languages, sustained leadership and understanding between Canadians at every political level will both be needed.

[English]

This anniversary reminds Canadians of the work accomplished in the past 25 years to foster understanding and a spirit of co-operation between English and French-speaking Canadians. We must continue to promote harmony and to recognize the considerable contribution made by both linguistic and cultural groups to Canada.

Our two official languages are characteristic of Canada. Whether we are English or French speaking, we are all Canadians proud of Canada and its heritage. Happy anniversary. *Bon anniversaire.*