

*The Address—Mr. Nunziata*

And then, I am greatly concerned about young Canadians. The Hon. Member for Louis-Hébert was quite right when she told the House that work is what young people are seeking now, they want to be able to work, they want to be able to study, but do so to make a success of their lives; they want something to do so they will feel useful to their fellow Canadians. What we have been giving them in the past two years is experience, practical experience which will lead to satisfactory and gainful employment, they will be able to work and feel useful in the future. There again the Hon. Member for Louis-Hébert proudly pointed out that the Speech from the Throne will pave the way for more new jobs and better training for youths.

She also paid particular attention to free trade. Free trade means very long and hard negotiations, but the only people who really stand to gain anything are Canadians because we have a huge market in the United States and we must corner it, something which no previous Government, particularly the last one, tried to do. On the contrary, they were always fighting against the American Government.

With respect to foreign trade, the world at large is aware of the quality of our work and of our products. Therefore, as the Hon. Member for Louis-Hébert put it, there is every reason to produce even more and export all our products, for this will create more jobs for Canadians.

Another significant issue about which she spoke at length is the role of women in our system, a very important role. As she so aptly put it, once again our Government has given women employment equity. Women will always be very sensible persons, with plenty to say not only from the back benches but from the forefront, of every society, of every Government.

There is one thing all of us are a little jealous of, and I mean the National Optical Institute which was set up in her constituency. I want to commend her for securing the National Optical Institute. This is something to be proud of. All Members in my view can be jealous of that achievement because again it points to this Government's commitment to research and technology.

Turning now to the matter of drugs, this is one of the most important subjects in the Throne Speech. It is highly important in my view that our Government should spare no effort in controlling drug abuse in Canada. This is just about the most nefarious thing for our youth, that propensity to drugs, the propensity to evasion. I therefore feel she was absolutely right in stating that the use of drugs is something that should be assailed, and this Government will do it. And I am certain we will succeed.

Finally, I want to say that I am very pleased with the speech made by the Hon. Member for Louis-Hébert, and I congratulate her for it.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Does the Hon. Member for Louis-Hébert (Mrs. Duplessis) have a comment?

**Mrs. Duplessis:** I greatly appreciate the comments made by my colleague. In his remarks, I think he left out the most important subject, that is national reconciliation, the successful discussions we will be having with Quebec so it can take its rightful place as a full partner in the Canadian federation and sign the constitutional agreement.

[English]

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to make some remarks about the Throne Speech. First I should like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your appointment to the position of Deputy Speaker. As well, I should like to congratulate the Speaker on his election last week. We on this side of the House certainly wish you and the Speaker well in your deliberations over the next two years. We as members of the Opposition are convinced that, given the co-operation of Hon. Members on all sides of the House, we can in fact make this place work a little better. We have had some difficulties in the past, but I sense a genuine willingness to make this place work and to try to co-operate with all Hon. Members.

Having said that, I should now like to turn to the Speech from the Throne, a document that was introduced to the nation last week with considerable fanfare. It seems that the bottom line is that the Speech from the Throne is simply an exercise in rhetoric. It is a lot of high-falutin phrases and promises. Given the track record of the Government, Canadians are asking themselves whether in fact the Government will deliver on the 57-odd promises contained in the Speech from the Throne. As you know, the Government decided it needed an extra month to allow Mr. Dalton Camp the opportunity to review the public opinion polls and to draft a Throne Speech that would set a new course for the Government. Given the fact that the Government needed an extra month, Canadians expected from this Throne Speech a vision for Canada, some indication from the Government where it wanted to take the country, some definitive action. Instead, what Canadians were given was simply a Throne Speech that for all intents and purposes was similar, if not identical, to the one delivered two years ago. It was a warmed-over Throne Speech. It was recycled with some consideration given to the public opinion polls.

• (1530)

Canadians no longer trust the Government. It is obvious from the public opinion polls that Canadians have lost trust in the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and in the Government. They made some 330 odd promises during the election campaign in 1984, and upon taking office the Government started breaking the promises one after the other.

The Prime Minister still has the audacity to speak about the Liberal record of Government of the last 16, 18 or 20 years. The Prime Minister and the Conservative Government now have a record of their own, and Canadians know what that record is all about.