

Radio and Television

Mr. Pigeon: Mr. Speaker, I ask the hon. member to withdraw those remarks; they are out of order.

Mr. Rouleau: Well, if the hon. member did not draw his inspiration from that article, perhaps the writer drew his inspiration from the hon. member's speech, for they are very much alike. Here is what it says:

That the Conservative government should thus foster a focus of hostility towards itself, that is its own business. But the people of the province of Quebec demand an early and thorough clean-up.

The author of the article also states:

If the Liberals were in power, states writer Robert Rumilly, they would not tolerate the Conservatives ruling the roost at C.B.C. headquarters a year after a Tory defeat.

Elsewhere in the same article we read the following:

Enemies of Maurice Duplessis sometimes brand him as a dictator, but in no other country in the world would such attacks, made on the state-controlled television against the head of the government be tolerated.

The article also mentions the name of Miss Simone Gelinas, editor of *Notre Temps*, official organ of the Union Nationale,—and goes on to say:

As for me, I am less polite, or more "fed up" . . . I say that a government that is being fooled like that by the state radio is a government of cuckolds.

At the top of the page, the article concludes as follows:

There should be a clean sweep in the C.B.C. and we are offering the broom!

Mr. Speaker, I presume that the present government is not prepared to accept the broom being offered by Mr. Rumilly.

Those words of inspiration, which fall so unpleasantly on the ears of certain hon. members, were perhaps written by the ghost-writer of Mr. Maurice Duplessis, the "jaundice" of the Union Nationale, false prophet Robert Rumilly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I regret to interrupt the hon. member but I feel he is drifting away to some extent from the amendment.

Mr. Rouleau: Mr. Speaker, I noticed that when you interrupted the hon. member for Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm, last night, he went on with his remarks just the same, and I respectfully submit that you should grant me the same privilege.

Mr. Pigeon: Mr. Speaker, I made no mention of a broom.

Mr. Boulanger: You referred to scanty attire; what has that to do with the discussion?

Mr. Rouleau: In any case, Mr. Speaker, if all those people were replaced, that the hon. member wants fired, and if there were a general clean sweep at the C.B.C. it might well afford an opportunity for patronage.

I resent the attacks made here by the hon. member for Joliette-l'Assomption-Montcalm against three honest persons: Messrs. Pierre-Elliott Trudeau, Gerard Pelletier and Jean-Louis Gagnon.

I do not know the political affiliations of Messrs. Trudeau and Pelletier, but I do know, and full well, those of Mr. Jean-Louis Gagnon.

In some quarters, well-known to the hon. member for Joliette-l'Assomption-Montcalm, there were attempts to besmirch the name of Mr. Jean-Louis Gagnon. It was hinted that he was a Communist, which is absolutely false. They resent Mr. Gagnon because he is a Liberal. He is an honest man, a man of great culture, who is a credit to us not only in this country but abroad.

Moreover, the hon. member should know that the C.B.C. has on its payroll men like Roger Duhamel and Dostaler O'Leary. When the Liberals were in power, there were men at the C.B.C. who criticized the government, like Andre Laurendeau and Gerard Fillion, yet the former government never moved a finger to have them fired.

They were doing their duty as newsmen and the former government never interfered. I therefore hope that this government will never hamper the freedom of the press.

If some newsmen attack us, in matters of politics, on the radio and in the press they do so to help their fellow citizens. They live under a democratic system, and they are not ousted, as was done recently to a newsman by a certain premier.

In his remarks, the hon. member used the same expressions as the premier of his province. Yesterday in his speech the hon. member used the phrase "whited sepulchres" in reference to men like Messrs. Pelletier, Trudeau, Gagnon and perhaps even of all Liberals. Well, that happens to be a pet expression of the premier of Quebec. It is no problem to discern where the hon. member for Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm got his education. The men he mentioned yesterday are honest people who go out of their way to do their duty. I would like to know what the hon. member means when he says "leftism"; he did not describe the meaning of this word.