

*The Address—Mr. Diefenbaker*

As far as the seconder is concerned, I need only say to him that he spoke with power and capacity and with an unusual ability in both languages. I heard both these hon. gentlemen speaking during the recent elections, and I can say to them that as the result of their presentations and the ability they displayed, they were honoured in this way.

I want also to say to many of the new members—things did not turn out just exactly as I had hoped; apparently the Leader of the Opposition and I are in agreement there—that the greatness of parliament depends on bringing into this institution men and women of capacity and ability. While we have been here for only a couple of days, I must say that those new members in all parts of the house who have come here have shown a capacity and ability that I know will provide a great sense of dignity and capacity in carrying out the responsibilities that will rest upon this parliament.

In lighter vein, may I say that while the Leader of the Opposition moved a vote of non-confidence, his near seatmate, the hon. member for Essex East (Mr. Martin), displayed this morning his views as to the outcome when he said that the Gill report will be available to this government for implementation shortly before Christmas.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I am a very bad prophet.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** That, Mr. Speaker, is the finest admission he has ever made. He has been a bad prophet all the way along. This time, however, he speaks from the heart.

Now, sir, I was tremendously interested too in the appeal to the members of third parties in the house and in the fine solicitude which was displayed by the Leader of the Opposition. I would point out, as I pointed out last evening, the references made to the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette) by the Leader of the Opposition a few weeks ago. I would also refer to a speech that the Leader of the Opposition made at Sorel, Quebec, when he showed that he intends not only to run his own party but that he wants to direct and run other opposition parties. This is what he said. I am reading from a translation, at page 4, of his speech at Sorel. It is an extremely interesting statement which he made:

An opposition member, therefore, cannot vote confidence in the present government without being a traitor to the mandate.

That was one of the statements he made. I simply point out that contempt of parliament has had few equals to that statement. He then goes on to say many things to which I will refer. Then he states what happens to the third parties for which he has such great solicitude if he succeeds in a vote of non-confidence. This is found at page 5.

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister what he is reading from?

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I am reading from a document issued by the cabinet du chef de l'opposition. In that document he states.

What will this new election be like?

**Mr. Pearson:** I was asking the Prime Minister what he was reading from when he said he was reading from a French translation.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I am reading from the French translation, yes; I have the French here and I am able to translate it with a great deal more effectiveness and correctness than is the hon. gentleman.

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Prime Minister has just said he was reading from a French translation made in my office. That is not true. He is reading from his own translation.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman has been carrying on a very interesting campaign—and I am happy that he has done so—in this cooling off period, as he has made more statements that have been beneficial to the government than any member of the government has been able to make. To continue the quotation:

What will this new election be like? It will be as those others which have preceded it, a fight especially between the Liberal party and the Conservative party.

For the New Democratic party he has these welcome words:

In the last election the N.D.P. was definitely chased out of Saskatchewan and has only temporarily supplanted Social Credit in British Columbia. As for the Social Credit upswing, this did not spread beyond the frontiers of Quebec.

Then he goes on to say this:

In this decisive battle between the Liberal party and the Conservative party, we do not fear the verdict.

Then he goes on to say it will be a battle between the Liberal and Conservative parties. I simply point out that the powers of prophecy are not restricted to the hon. member for Essex East.

During the election campaign the Leader of the Opposition made many statements. I do not intend to go into those statements. I do not intend to refight the election. However, I am going to point out that the expenditures he promised would amount to over \$1 billion per annum additional to those already provided for—

**Mr. Pearson:** Rubbish.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** —\$1,300 million in other odds and ends—

**Mr. Pearson:** Nonsense.