

The Address—Mr. Basford

Canadian, of working out ways of preserving Canada and of assuring that the mosaic that is Canada can be kept together.

I have offered some slight advice to the Prime Minister and his government. In closing, Mr. Speaker, from my humble position here on this side I would like to offer a little advice to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) who, I suspect, is in greater need of advice than the Prime Minister. We have been presented with one of the shortest speeches from the throne since confederation, a speech bereft of the usual parliamentary niceties and clichés. It is a lean, progressive, businesslike document. I would characterize it as a "let us get on with the job" speech. The government has indicated its willingness, its desire, to go on. The people of this country are now looking to this parliament to address itself to the problems of this country and to get on with the job.

I realize that the Leader of the Opposition has certain important responsibilities but I know, also, that it rests principally in his hands whether this parliament is effective or whether it grinds to a complete standstill

in the midst of parliamentary manoeuvring. The people of this country are not interested in having us sit here scoring debating points against each other.

Mr. Herridge: What about last fall?

Mr. Basford: I am surprised at my socialist friends looking back to the past. That is usually the habit of the Conservatives.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Basford: I suggest the people of Canada are interested in our proposing and enacting solutions to the country's problems.

With the hope on this side of the house that this parliament will take the speech from the throne and address itself to the work of parliament and the needs of the people, I have the honour of seconding the motion of my hon. friend the hon. member for Longueuil for an address in reply to the speech from the throne.

On motion of Mr. Diefenbaker the debate was adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Pearson the house adjourned at 4.41 p.m.
