

and the NDP voted against it by 188 votes. Only 11 Creditistes voted for it.

Mr. Speaker, this prompts me to say that the Progressive Conservative party is not any better than the Liberal party. The motion of the opposition leader states that the government does not possess the confidence of this House. The Progressive Conservatives lost it in 1963. Why? Because they were inactive. And today, instead of bringing in positive measures they say: The government does not possess the confidence of this House. The government is a French power.

Mr. Speaker, in good English I shall say this: In Ottawa we the Cr ditistes:

• (2040)

[English]

We do not want French power or English power: we want real Canadian power for the whole of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette (T miscamingue): That is providing our economic system will allow us to be what we are in a free province. It is only then that we will have national unity, and never otherwise.

Getting funds from British Columbia for distribution in the Maritime provinces and in Quebec, or getting them from Ontario—a province that also needs its money—for distribution to other provinces, will not satisfy anyone. We displease those from whom we take that money and we do not please all that much those who get it, as shown by the fact that the government is accused of giving too much to Quebec, and if Quebec is asked whether it is getting too much, it will say: No, this is still not enough. If you go out West, you will hear the same criticism, and so on from one end of Canada to the other. Why? Because the economic system is such that it cannot please all the provinces.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne states some nice things. I said, the day when this speech was given, that it promised a lot.

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Official Opposition and his right hand man, who is actually on his left, are agreed now, I think, to recognize the soundness of the suggestions that we offer.

I was saying that the Speech from the Throne deals with things that are not usually mentioned in it: the guaranteed annual income, assistance to small industry, the creation of new industries and the aid required for this purpose.

Mr. Speaker, all this is very nice. It is also nice to hear the leader of the New Democratic Party say: Cut taxes, increase pensions, get rid of the corporate welfare bums, get rid of all that. But where and how can the purchasing power be increased under the present financial system? By robbing Peter to pay Paul? By taking away from the haves to give to the have-nots?

[English]

Take away from the haves to give to the have-nots, and at the end you will have all kinds of have-nots and no more haves.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Address—Mr. R. Caouette

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette (T miscamingue): Mr. Speaker, we have been talking about the Bank of Canada for a long time—we have been here for at least 11 years, and I sat in the House from 1946 to 1949—and nobody has yet understood.

An hon. Member: You were a Liberal then?

Mr. Caouette (T miscamingue): No, I was a Creditiste. It was when I was a Liberal that I could not see clearly.

Mr. Speaker, we talked and we are still talking about the Bank of Canada. Many laughed as they did two years ago when we talked about guaranteed annual income and the hon. member for Papineau (Mr. Ouellet) was always on his feet saying that the Creditistes were crazy. This year, however, the speech from the throne advocates a guaranteed annual income for part of the population. This comes from the Liberals! It is true that fear is the beginning of wisdom; the government is afraid of being overthrown, so it gets wiser. This can easily be seen from the fact that the hon. ministers are less arrogant than they used to be six months ago. They answer questions more readily. In fact, they seem to be more talkative than before. They understand our questions better, and it is a good thing. This is why I am telling the population that a minority government is more efficient than a majority government.

We had another example of this in 1958 when the Conservatives had 208 members. Since there was not enough room on this side of the House, several members sat on the other side. In fact, they were so many that the place was packed with Tories.

In 1961 there were one million unemployed in Canada. Those who blame the government for maintaining a system which tolerates 560,000 unemployed should think about the one million we had in 1961.

Mr. Gaffney: No, no.

Mr. Caouette (T miscamingue): The hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi says no, no. This is why the Progressive Conservatives were defeated in 1962, because there were one million unemployed in Canada. In spite of its large majority, the government was helpless. The same thing happened with the Liberal majority government and you will see an improvement in the coming months with the minority government, as in 1963, 1965 and 1968.

• (2050)

However, again I refer to our suggestion concerning the resort to the Bank of Canada, a suggestion which was considered rather funny.

I have before me the 1970 Revised Statutes of Canada, that is 1970 of the Christian era, for those who would not know it!

Section 14 of the Bank of Canada Act sets the powers of the Bank and appropriate government directive. I quote:

14. (1) The Minister and the Governor shall consult regularly on monetary policy and on its relation to general economic policy.

When economy is lagging, the Minister of Finance must meet with the governor of the Bank of Canada and dis-