

*The Address—Mr. Caouette*

Liberal minister comes up and states that it is he who donates such and such a thing—

**An hon. Member:** Go tell that to Duplessis.

**Mr. Caouette:** In Pontiac county, we do not need other members to look after matters of interest to that county. As for claiming that the member for Chapleau has secured anything for Pontiac, he should first begin by obtaining things for the constituency of Chapleau, because people are asking for some in his own constituency and nothing is being done.

I have here a letter from Senneterre, in the constituency of Chapleau—

**Mr. Gour (Russell):** Mr. Chairman—

**Mr. Caouette:**

Friday, January 14, 1949, will long be remembered by the people of Senneterre—

**Mr. Gour (Russell):** Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege, may I ask a question of the hon. member?

**Mr. Caouette:** Go ahead, don't be shy.

**Mr. Gour (Russell):** Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member for Chapleau is able to obtain much for his own constituency and for the neighbouring constituency, it is only because he creditably represents them. Furthermore, when he speaks in the house, he does it intelligently and not as the hon. member has just done.

**Mr. Caouette:** I understand that the hon. member for Russell (Mr. Gour) is rather touchy. He recently advised the electors of Russell to make joint representations in connection with oleomargarine, asking them to bring pressure to bear upon Mr. Duplessis, but apparently he is not ready to bring similar pressure to bear upon the dominion government. However, let the hon. member set his mind at rest; I have no intention—

**Mr. Gour (Russell):** Mr. Speaker, it was Mr. Kennedy—

**Mr. Caouette:** I have no lesson to take from the hon. member for Russell; rather, he is the one who needs lessons. For a long time he has not succeeded in—

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. members realize that it is the duty of the Speaker to preserve decorum and dignity in this house.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

[Mr. Caouette.]

**Mr. Speaker:** I would ask the hon. member who has the floor to help the Speaker maintain that decorum and dignity in addressing himself to the chair and not to the other members of this house. As regards the hon. member for Russell (Mr. Gour) and others, I wish to point out to them the fact that when a member has the floor, no one may interrupt him without his consent.

**Mr. Gour (Russell):** I observed that rule.

**Mr. Caouette:** I will accede to your request with pleasure and thus uphold the dignity of this house.

On January 14 of this year, the hon. member for Chapleau (Mr. Gour) spoke at a meeting held at Senneterre, in his constituency. His electors had asked him to look into the matter of electricity for their parish, to get them a new post office and, finally to obtain an Indian school. According to the report which I got from Senneterre, the hon. member for Chapleau answered that he could do absolutely nothing. To have a post office, he said, you need at least \$10,000 revenue whereas Senneterre only produces \$7,500. As for the Indian school, he advised them to see their parish priest and the diocesan authorities. He declared himself unable to do anything at all about electricity. The report adds:

The hon. member for Chapleau is very kind to the cities of Pontiac county, but very "mean" to his own constituents. He goes so far as to say "a member of parliament has to be a diplomat," a remark he underscores with a loud guffaw. He even goes further and says haughtily that he does not need to be a member of parliament to make a living.

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I listened to the hon. member for Wright (Mr. Raymond) talking about peace and happiness, war, conscription . . .

**Mr. Gagnon:** That was yesterday.

**Mr. Caouette:** I beg your pardon; it was indeed yesterday. He was saying that Canada could not remain neutral, and so on. He criticized newspapers that advocate neutrality, as well as Canadian citizens who disapprove of war and conscription and want Canada to stay neutral.

It is not a question of Canada staying neutral if the country is attacked. Of course Canadians, in Quebec or in any other province, will not hesitate to defend themselves if Canada should be attacked. But that does not warrant the promoting of wars in the