

Speech from the Throne

a new start for the Canadian economy; restoring security and Canada's international standing; save our confederation which today is the butt of all sorts of ideological trouble.

The speech from the throne, though a succinct one, shows that the Liberal party has the will and determination to uphold its pledges to the people.

We want to revive Canadian economy. In order to do so, the government, in the speech from the throne, advocates the creation of a department of industry. In our era of technological revolution, where science is progressing at a terrific speed, and industrial development gets into a giant's stride, it is of primary importance that the Canadian government have a department of industry.

The speech from the throne also advocates the setting up of a system of contributory pensions. Here, Mr. Speaker, we can realize that in Canada the Liberal party has always been a pioneer in social legislation, because its philosophy is precisely based on the dignity of the human person. Thus, family allowances, set up by the Liberal party, establish the family as the basic unit of a rich and high-minded society.

The Liberal party, aware of the need for old age security, also established it. It is that party that set up old age pensions.

The Liberal party, aware of the fact that a nation that wants to be rich, strong and great must enjoy good health, established hospital insurance.

And, still in the same field, the Liberal party always in the van of progress, now advocates the establishment of a contributory pension plan to improve our social security system in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, in the Liberal party's platform the development and the rehabilitation of the agricultural industry is proposed, along with the appointment of a second minister of agriculture.

As a representative of a rural riding, I can only welcome this eminently beneficial measure which will provide for the appointment of a minister of agriculture to deal with the problems of the eastern farmers, which are so numerous and so pressing.

The Quebec farmers face serious problems, whether in the dairy farming, in the hog raising industry, in the mechanization of farms—which entail fantastic outlays for our farmers. Further, their insufficient income

cannot provide them with adequate comfort. The department of agriculture for eastern Canada will have heavy responsibilities. It shall probably not be able to solve completely all the problems that exist.

The department of agriculture for eastern Canada will certainly have a heavy task, and will probably not be able to solve all the existing problems.

Georges Clemenceau used to say: "The state has too many children to be a good father". One thing is certain: the new department will be able to offer appreciable help to our eastern farmers, more particularly in the province of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, the program of the Liberal party advocates a revival of Canada's international prestige. It is enough to mention the name of the Prime Minister to have a concrete and exalting vision of the international prestige Canada will enjoy in the years to come.

As for the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Martin) we know that under the Liberal regime, from 1945 to 1957, he built up our whole system of social security. It is quite clear that his awareness of social problems will help him become a first-rate diplomat.

Mr. Speaker, for all those reasons and motives, I am honoured and pleased to second the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

(Text):

On motion of Mr. Diefenbaker the debate was adjourned.

(Translation):

MR. DENIS—CORRECTION OF STATEMENT MADE EARLIER IN PROCEEDINGS

Hon. Azellus Denis (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, before the house adjourns, may I raise a question of privilege in order to make a corrective statement?

Contrary to what I had been told by the Westmount police, fortunately Sergeant-major Walter Leja is not dead, although he is seriously wounded. Everything is being done to save his life.

(Text):

On motion of Mr. Pearson the house adjourned at 4.30 p.m.