

National Defence Act Amendment

courteously. I obviously disagree with the hon. member, but I must admit that he expresses his views in an acceptable and reasonable manner, at least in this house.

His participation in this debate is not to be compared with that of the member for Edmonton-Strathcona who is constantly using insulting language and always suspecting conspiracies everywhere, behind the curtains, in the office of the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Hellyer) and in the Liberal caucus. I would rather not mention the hon. member's remarks, but I say to this house that whether or not we are in favour of the unification and integration of our armed forces, we ought never utter such words. That was unfortunate, and if I were allowed to do so, I would apologize for him before the house for the remarks he made here.

Next, there is the hon. member for Cape Breton South (Mr. MacInnis). All hon. members know him.

[English]

He is a jumping member, always very devoted to his constituency, I would agree; but when it comes to these large and important questions I think he is completely out of order. I am sorry he is not here; I am sure we could have a good debate between us. Perhaps we shall have it at another time.

[Translation]

But for some reason, which is beyond my understanding, the member for Cape Breton South replaced the hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Fane) during some of the committee meetings.

The major contribution of the hon. member of Cape Breton South during the discussion was a personal and malicious attack against the minister. I took out several other epithets, because I want to concentrate on what I said earlier about the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona. Mr. Chairman, I pass over three lines of the text which I had prepared and over all the epithets which I could have used to qualify, not the member for Cape Breton South personally, but his statements. So, he said these things about the hon. minister, and above all, he offered the fallacious idea that unification would lead to conscription.

Moreover, our hon. friend, the member for Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot (Mr. Ricard) said the same things last night. He also saw the dark cloud of conscription looming on the horizon.

He knows that his words may cause the people to follow him, the nation or the state call it what you will; I do not like semantics as much as that. He will try to arouse the feelings of the French speaking population which seems to be afraid of conscription. I think the hon. members for Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot and for Cape Breton South get on well together. They will probably be conscripted, but certainly not in the army.

Now, I shall talk about the contribution made by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) who, instead of dealing with Bill No. C-243, made a violent diatribe against the new Minister of Justice (Mr. Trudeau) who, it seems, had written some articles in a magazine called *Cité Libre*. Therefore, I made a few inquiries. I remember when I was a student, regularly reading *Cité Libre* as all the University students did in the province of Quebec.

I particularly remembered that the new Minister of Justice was even then an impartial observer, and that he had not merely talked about Liberal members and the Liberal party.

In an article I will be allowed to quote—I will do exactly as he did—written by Pierre Elliott Trudeau in *Cité Libre* on April 16, 1960, here is what the author said of the then prime minister, Mr. Diefenbaker now Leader of the Opposition:

DIEFENBAKER UP IN A BALLOON

—Mr. Diefenbaker could have chosen—without being blamed for it—to govern quietly during the years required to learn the trade of statesman. If he had proceeded thus, by slow and thoughtful maturation, the Conservative leader might have eventually given his party a truly historic dimension. Whereas now, that party is in way of becoming the usual mixture of loud-mouths and adventurers, a collection of lawyers at so much per mile and contractors at so much per square foot, in short, the traditional party of Canadian politicians.

In fact, Mr. Diefenbaker has chosen to strain his talent. Elected by the greatest majority since confederation, this leader could hardly bear to think that some traces of the Liberal legend could subsist. He seemed determined to overshadow the very shadows filling our current political history.

First, there was Mr. Pearson, Nobel prize, highly respected in every chancery throughout the world and leader of the opposition.

Mr. Graftey: That is because Mr. Trudeau was a socialist at that time.

Mr. Prud'homme:

Mr. Diefenbaker had to rush to overshadow him by rising as a giant on the international scene.