

The Address—Mr. Cullen

What our farmers need is a greater return in terms of real, net income for their produce, no matter where that increase comes from. The voices of agriculture—the people who represent farming, are not now and are not likely to be again a major political force in Canada simply because there are not many farmers. Nevertheless, may I remind the house that the agricultural segment of our population, small though it may be, is the leading purchaser of manufactured goods in Canada. If the purchasing power of our agricultural community is curtailed we shall be faced with the greatest depression in the history of our nation. With the productivity of workers being what it is in this country, the bulk of our industry is unable to compete in world markets. Our industrial complex needs the captive market that it has in the agricultural community. My greatest fear is that if the farmer, and particularly the western farmer, does not achieve his rightful place in the just society, separatist movements will arise in parts of the country other than Quebec.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, as a new member of the house I feel singularly fortunate to have been given the opportunity of making my maiden speech so early in the session. May I add my congratulations on your re-election to the office of Speaker. I do not think any finer tribute can be paid to a man than his election to a position of responsibility by his peers. I take it to be the consensus in this house that the time has come for the appointment of a permanent Speaker, and I can think of no man more appropriate to fill this post than Your Honour.

● (12:50 p.m.)

I also wish to express my congratulations to the Deputy Speaker. I know this appointment was warranted. I must say I watched this appointment with more than a casual interest because as a result of the hon. gentleman's elevation I too was elevated, from the second floor to a much larger office on the fourth floor.

I wish to pay tribute to the mover (Mr. Corbin) and the seconder (Mr. Marchand) of the motion for the address in reply. As teammates of Bobby Hull and Stan Mikita must have said in the past, I am happy they are on my team.

I represent the riding of Sarnia, before redistribution the historic riding of Lambton

[Mr. Downey.]

West. In addition to the City of Sarnia, the heart of the chemical valley, located on the southernmost tip of lake Huron and along the beautiful St. Clair river, dominated by the international Blue Water bridge, my riding also includes the townships of Moore, Sarnia Plympton, plus that proud-as-punch village of Point Edward, and lastly—and I place it last only because I wish to give it special emphasis—the Sarnia Indian reserve which lies wholly within the limits of the city of Sarnia. Members of the Chippewa nation reside on this reserve and I am proud to count myself an honorary member of the tribe. My Chippewa name is Pa-Mi-Noh-Ding. When given this name I was told of the reason and of the history of the name, and I must say it was most flattering, but when I tell you its translation I am certain that members of the house, more particularly those seated opposite, will be able to devise a more appropriate reason for my being given this name which means, "Travelling with the Winds".

New members sit here feeling humble but not too humble because we represent 60,000 to 70,000 people, in some areas more than this, and we have an obligation to speak, be it to make a maiden speech or to speak up in caucus, and when new members, without betraying the secrets of caucus meetings, speak in the house I trust that they are heard and listened to.

I read with considerable interest and delight Mr. George Bain's column in the *Globe and Mail* of June 28 headed, "Advice to the New Boys". Well, Mr. Bain, we were under no illusions that if elected we would end up immediately as members of the cabinet but I would have preferred, and I am sure other new members would have also, if the title of your excellent column had been "Advice to the New Boy's Constituents". Incidentally, two people in Canada were convinced that I had become a member of the cabinet. I was sorry to have to inform these two hopefuls that it was Bud Olson and not Bud Cullen who had become the Minister of Agriculture.

Listening to some of the addresses over the past few days it has occurred to me, as it may occur to other hon. members after hearing my address, that we could dispense with a great number of these speeches and get down to business sooner, and this would be my recommendation for rule change No. 1. Second, if I am to take up the time of this house I feel it is incumbent upon me to make