

believe, indeed, that the world truly can become a better place to live.

[*Translation*]

I think Sir Wilfrid Laurier probably gave the best definition of Liberal doctrine when he spoke to the Reform Club in Quebec, in the old capital of Quebec, in the following terms, and I quote:

I am a Liberal, that is, I believe that in this world, there is abuse that must be stopped, there are new horizons to be discovered and new forces to be developed.

Mr. Speaker, the programs introduced by the Liberals over the years are a reflection of Laurier's vision: health insurance, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, the guaranteed income supplement, family allowance, funds made available to educational institutions under established programs financing, on-the-job training for youth, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the Student Loans Act, a bill I had the privilege of presenting here in the House at the time.

[*English*]

There was a question, Mr. Speaker, directed by my colleague, the Hon. Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Copps), concerning the commitments of the Prime Minister and the Government to the women of this country. There are indeed, as the Prime Minister observed, more women Members in this House today than ever before. I congratulate each and every one of them in every quarter of the House. I congratulate them no matter what partisan loyalties they may share, and I urge the women of this country to stand in greater numbers for public office, for Parliament, for the legislatures and for the municipalities.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): The women of this country have helped set the agenda for the last decade and we need more women in public life to help implement that agenda. All issues are women's issues. We must put an end to discrimination against women. We must allow women, by way of legislation and precedent, to have the freedom to choose how they want to live, whether they want to fulfil their careers at home or in the workplace, or both, either full time or part time.

The rules by which this Party will govern legislation affecting women are those of fairness, equality, equity and a real partnership in this country. This Party has always fought and will continue to fight to improve the position of women, whether they work at home, outside the home, or both. We believe in the full equality of women, we believe in equal pay for work of equal value, and we believe that the Human Rights Commission should take a more activist role in making that principle a reality. As my colleague from Hamilton East pointed out, it is the law; it is now up to the federal Government and its agencies to ensure that the law is fulfilled in the federal Public Service, in federal Crown Corporations and in those who fall within federal jurisdiction.

Mr. Chrétien: No more studies. Action!

The Address—Rt. Hon. John Turner

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): My colleague from Saint-Maurice (Mr. Chrétien) says: "No more studies. Action!"

● (1530)

We need adequate funding for day care. We do not need any more studies on day care such as the Throne Speech proposes. We need adequate funding for day care.

The Loyal Opposition will support an amendment to the Indian Act affecting Section 12(1)(b). I am glad that the Government intends to make that a priority.

We on this side believe in improving the enforcement of maintenance orders across the country and hope that the legislation contemplates something in that respect. We believe that the Government should follow up the Badgley Report on sexual abuses.

We believe that the Government should continue what we were doing in conducting an audit of all federal and provincial legislation to ensure that it accords with the Charter amendment which will become effective on April 17 next year affecting equality of women. There should be an active audit of every piece of federal and provincial legislation led by the Attorney General.

We also believe in affirmative action and equal access to training, jobs, opportunities and career options. I have been on record, Mr. Speaker, on this subject. We do not believe in a quota system. We believe in a merit system. We believe women ought to have an opportunity to qualify for merit as we believe they easily will. In this respect we will be watching what the Government does on affirmative action because we expect the publication of the Abella Report later this month or next month and we will be watching the Government's response to that particular report.

The cultural heritage of this country must be defended and preserved, Mr. Speaker. There is no longer a majority and a minority in Canada. We are all minorities and the time has come for total accessibility by way of statute, precedent or regulation for all Canadians in business, government and the unions, no matter what their creed, colour, faith or sex, and no matter how long they have lived in this country. In the past Liberal Governments have pursued progressive and humane immigration policies which have enriched the heritage of this country. We have stressed policies which underline the reunification of families. We have welcomed political refugees from Poland, Chile, Vietnam and other countries.

With the greatest respect, the Throne Speech touched only lightly on the subject of multiculturalism. I note, for instance, that there was no mention of compensation or acknowledgement to the Japanese Canadians for the treatment they received during World War II. The Prime Minister proposed that earlier this year. It was also the last question which he happened to direct to my predecessor when my predecessor sat in his seat in the House of Commons. The issue of acknowledgement and the redress which I believe Japanese Canadians are entitled to did not receive mention in this Throne Speech. I