

into the French language and were distributed in Quebec as election propaganda, because at that time, except for Laurier, the Liberal public speakers in the Province of Quebec were very few. Those pamphlets containing speeches made to Ontario English-speaking Canadians were distributed in the Province of Quebec by Quebec Liberals to serve as their own political propaganda. Was it not pretty good?

Now, honourable colleagues, having said that I must tell you that Canada has the right to have a flag. Canada, our country, has undoubtedly the right to have her own flag, just as the Province of Nova Scotia has the right to have its own flag—a flag that was given it by King James—and just as the Province of Quebec has the right to have its own flag, which was voted upon unanimously by the Quebec Legislature and without any consideration of political affiliation.

Mr. Duplessis, the Premier at that time, met the Honourable Joseph Adelard Godbout, who was later a member of the Senate, and mentioned to him his proposal for a flag. What did Mr. Godbout say? Mr. Godbout, who was Leader of the Opposition, said: "That flag will be the provincial flag of the Province of Quebec. It will not be the flag of Duplessis. It will not be the flag of Godbout. It will be the flag of the Province of Quebec." Instead of playing politics with it, Mr. Duplessis moved his proposal for a flag, and it was seconded by Mr. Godbout, and adopted unanimously.

I have written in the local paper down home that Mr. Pearson, the Prime Minister of Canada, should follow the example of Mr. Duplessis, and that Mr. Diefenbaker should follow the example of Mr. Godbout. Mr. Pearson was ready to follow the example of Mr. Duplessis. He did so, and the resolution that is on the Order Paper is precisely what Mr. Duplessis moved in respect of the Quebec provincial flag. But, very unfortunately, the Right Honourable Leader of the Opposition in the other place thought it beneath his dignity to follow the example of Mr. Godbout.

I remember that in this very chamber one day I mentioned what Mr. Frost, the former Premier of Ontario, had said about the Red Ensign. It is fascinating to think that in the Province of Ontario the official flag was the Union Jack. Everybody knows it. But, after consideration, Mr. Frost decided to change it to the Red Ensign. What did Mr. Frost do finally? Mr. Frost said that the time was ripe to choose the maple leaf as the Canadian emblem on Canada's national flag. That was said by Mr. Frost, the former Premier of Ontario, and who could be more Conserv-

ative than the former Premier of Ontario, who was a good politician, and an able statesman. He was revered by our Conservative friends when he was Premier of Ontario, but now that he has left politics his opinion does not seem to count with them. Is it not most unfortunate?

But, there are reasons for hope. The tone of the debate here today, compared with what I heard yesterday in the House of Commons, is very different. It is not at all the same thing. Here there is more dignity. Sometimes some people who are misinformed make mistakes of fact and reasoning, but they should be forgiven. One who sincerely believes in the truth, and who knows the facts, must be intelligent enough to understand. I will not say any more about it.

This is the time for us to have a flag of our own. Canada is a great country. All the countries of Central Africa have flags of their own. I remember after Mr. Prudham, a former minister in the St. Laurent Government, went to one of the new African states, he told me that the first thing he saw was the raising of the flag. How can my honourable friends opposite be displeased about the move for a new flag when we think that in the West Indies Princess Margaret, the sister of the Queen, was present when the Union Jack was taken down? I do not remember it positively, but she may well have been the one who raised the flag of the new country. What about Prince Philip, the Consort of Her Majesty the Queen, who did likewise? Nobody was surprised. They recognized the fact that we live in an era of progress within a democracy. From the time that President Woodrow Wilson spoke of self-governing minorities, those people have had the right to be autonomous and to show their independence by flying a flag of their own.

Is not Canada at least the equal of the central, eastern and western African countries? Those countries have pride. They are a proud people. Their spokesmen are eloquent because they speak with their hearts; they are not afraid to behave like patriots. I have heard them at the United Nations in New York. I have heard the representatives of all the new African nations speaking beautifully. Those men were educated at the great French and English universities of Europe, and they were the best of all debaters at the United Nations. What struck me was their patriotism, but does patriotism become an empty word in the context of all that is said about internationalism and federalism?

If I have spoken as I have it is not because I am anti-British, but because I am pro-Canadian. I have great respect for Her Majesty the Queen, who is the symbol of authority, and the head of our Government in the widest possible sense.