

*The Address—Mr. Diefenbaker*

We believe the expansion of social security can only come out of production. We believe our duty now is to increase production, raise more and more our export aims, aspirations and achievements and build for a Canada stronger economically than ever before.

The official opposition intends to vote against us, they say. Well, we say we are going to bring in an economic board. They have asked for that. Now, when we bring it in, they announce they are going to vote against it. Again, the proposed Atlantic development board will advise on production and promote the development of the Atlantic region where the geographical situation requires measures which are not needed elsewhere. The board will deal with such matters as capital construction, including a survey of the tidal power of the eastern end of the bay of Fundy. The opposition has advocated this kind of thing for the maritimes. The position, now, is that they are going to vote against it. These are the things of which politics is made.

I cannot now go into detail about what we have done in northern development. I could deal with the tremendous expansion of the north today, with the discoveries of mineral ores, including 20 million tons of iron ore, the greatest mine in the world, or with the opening up of northern areas which previously were never expected to be accessible to development. I could speak of the assistance which has been given across this country in projects such as the Red River scheme, the Saskatchewan dam, and, yes, the Chignecto causeway—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** It is the Canso causeway and the Chignecto canal.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** It does not take very much to cause frivolity. I was speaking of the Prince Edward Island causeway and inadvertently mentioned another, but they can still jeer if they want to. We brought about an oil policy that has expanded the oil exports of Canada as never before. We are now providing for the export of power as a policy, which in the days ahead will do much to bring about a fair and reasonable equalization in our international payments situation. All of these things we have done. We face great economic problems and Canada always will. I say to the members of this house, why does the opposition now say that they are going to vote no confidence? Are we going to stop the progress that is taking place, the expansion and the development, by having an election now? I do not mind elections.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Well, let us have one right now.

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, I am so glad reference was made to that, because if I had not had a helper or an interlocutor I would have forgotten it. I think there has been a big change in four years. Let us recall how at the end of January 1958 they came in and said: "Now we want an election". Then they produced that supernatural amendment setting out all our shortcomings, which ended up by saying: "Please give us back our jobs". There has been a big change in four years. Whenever the election comes we will be dealing with it. In the meantime, I suggest that this house has a responsibility. We were elected to make progress. Let us unite together in faith and in determination to place Canada above the rank of petty politics. Let the national interest be the guide of the conscience of those who vote on this question. I have tried to place the picture before you as I see it. We intend to place our measures as rapidly as it is possible to do so before the house. We intend to delay in no way in meeting the exigencies of the occasion. We intend to pursue the course that we pursued in 1957, bringing before the house those things which we believe are right, and asking for the support of the house.

Now, sir, I do not mind those who want to put on their election paint, but I think our responsibility at the moment is to do our part to have the legislative program passed. Let us have an opportunity of bringing in a budget. Let us keep Canada moving as it is moving, and as all the documents say it is. That is my message to this house today.

**Mr. Robert N. Thompson (Red Deer):** Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to extend my congratulations to you on your election to the high office which you now hold in our midst. I know full well that, as you have already started, you will continue to carry on the traditions of the office of Speaker in our house. I wish also to extend my congratulations to the mover of the throne speech, the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Chaplin), and to the seconder, the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Vincent). In giving their maiden speeches in the house they spoke well, and I sincerely commend them for their efforts. It is my impression that I heard considerably more common sense from these gentlemen than I have heard in the speeches since then. The people of Canada are getting tired of the continual "yak-yak" of politicians who are more concerned with perpetuating an outworn political machine than they are in caring for the affairs of this nation and its people in a businesslike and efficient manner.

As a new member, I do want to express my appreciation for the friendly attitude shown and reception that has been given by