

*The Address—Mr. Caouette*

neither do we need, to use the euphemism contained in the speech from the throne in the following terms:

...to provide that the constitution of Canada may be amended in Canada by the procedures which have been agreed between my government and the government of all the provinces.

What we want and what is needed by Canada and the provincial states is a new constitution on the basis—please note that—of the acknowledgment of an equal partnership *de facto* and *de jure*; of two nations having the right to shape their own destiny, to take the decisions concerning them.

But on the other hand, we want no special status. Such an expression implies a concept of dependence of submission. As was explained the other day on television by the president of the Montreal St. Jean Baptiste society, the concept of a special status for Quebec implies that we want to be treated differently from the others or that the others will be treated differently from us. That is not what we want.

For instance, we want what the premier of British Columbia often repeats: equal treatment for all, special treatment for nobody, or no injustice for anyone. What we want is be treated like the others, receiving no more and no less.

We do not want a treatment better or worse than the treatment given to others; we do not want others to be placed on a level inferior or superior to ours; we want a real equality status, equality of rights for all Canadians, equality of rights for all Canadian provinces, equality of rights for everyone living in Canada.

We do not want to take anything away from others, as we have so often said, but we do not want others to take away our wealth, our rights. French Canada, Quebec is a real entity; it is the French-Canadian nation. In order to be true to itself, to develop freely according to its needs and aspirations, Quebec must have certain attributes which are the prerogatives of a free nation which wants to develop freely.

The first of these attributes which Quebec needs and that we members of the Ralliement Creditiste claim, is the control of our credit.

It is the control of our credit in the province of Quebec, and, for that matter, we suggest the other provinces do the same thing for themselves.

Would anything be taken away from Canada if the province of Quebec had the control of its credit in order to be able to proceed to the development of its own natural resources,

to the development of what we have in Quebec?

But the Minister of Finance (Mr. Gordon) told us the other day that he would never grant credit control to a province, precisely because this matter comes exclusively under the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, if we had a constitution organized and arranged to grant the provinces their rights on credit control, we would not have complaints on the part of the province of Quebec or of the other provinces, because we could look after making financially possible at home what is materially possible, desirable and morally good.

A nation cannot be free when it has to go abroad and ask for the right to live, for the financial means to develop its natural resources. A nation cannot be free when it has to kowtow to the London, Paris or New York financiers in order to get the credits necessary to its development and survival.

The credit of a nation rests on the ability and the will of its people to produce and deliver goods in sufficient quantities and at the time and place chosen by the prospective consumers. In short, real credit is the resources of a country, of a province expressed in possible goods and services.

One realizes therefore that real credit involves two factors: the production capacity and the needs to be met. Therefore, if real credit rests on producers and consumers, it rests, as it were, on the whole community, on the whole society. The real credit of a country is therefore something in common, something social, it is social credit. That is why we are Social Creditiste.

If real credit is social, financial credit, for its part, should reflect social credit. Financial credit should be created as abundantly and as rapidly as is required by the production of those goods and services wanted by the community, in order to meet all the needs of its members.

If we have natural resources and manufactures, if we have workers to produce goods, brains to manage production, then money and finance should not impede that satisfaction of the needs of all the members of the community.

There are needs; if the material wealth and the capacity of production exist, there should also be enough money—no more but no less—to satisfy those needs.

We ask that the province of Quebec be given the power to control its own credit so it can ensure its economic and social development. We want Quebec to enjoy all its