

The national Economic Summit will not be the culmination of this process, but its beginning.

Again at page six, the following is found:

—labour playing a critical role in the consultative process through which the new national agenda is established.

● (1450)

Honourable senators, I read that speech with great care and encountered close to a dozen references to "breathing new spirit," new "initiatives," and "beginnings." I found myself saying that that sounded somewhat familiar, so I reminisced a little historically and said: "My goodness, this country has had a new birth. It is almost as though Canada has just begun. It is almost as if little existed before; that prior to September 4, and prior to the election of Mr. Mulroney, Canada was in a state of darkness, and now, after September 4, Canada had been transformed into a state of grace."

I listened carefully and said that that sounded familiar. I said, of course, that is reminiscent of the Bible. So, I did some research and found the following in the Bible, in the Gospel according to St. John:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

I said to myself, "That's it; I've got it. All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made."

I thought to myself, "I have the solution." I concluded that Mr. Mulroney is a man of deep religious conviction.

Furthermore, honourable senators, I had no collusion whatsoever and was not in contact in any way whatsoever with the Vancouver *Sun*, which, on November 24, published a small article entitled, "Holy Brian"! in which it said:

Prime Minister Mulroney is probably just being religiously careful to keep his political honeymoon going. The Prime Minister has described both medicare and universality of social programs as a "sacred trust", and now government aircraft have become "sacred instruments of travel."

It seems to me, honourable senators, that if my perception is accurate and Mr. Mulroney is a man of deep religious conviction, we, as Liberals, and we, as Canadians, have little to worry about. If, on the other hand, Mr. Mulroney is about to attempt to reshape Canada in his own image, then it seems to me that we, as Liberals, have a great deal to worry about.

The Speech from the Throne was subdivided into several sections. What I want to begin with is the one entitled, "Renewed Canadian Internationalism." The following is a quote from the Throne Speech:

It is the purpose of my government to renew this tradition of constructive Canadian internationalism.

I submit, honourable senators, that if one wants to know the full meaning of Canadian internationalism, all one has to do is go abroad and mention the name of Pierre Elliott Trudeau and discover the respect that this country has abroad.

[Senator Cools.]

I have been waiting to speak on this matter for two weeks. At the time I was to speak, it was still the month of November, and in terms of renewed Canadian internationalism I wanted to talk then about Canada's efforts internationally.

If I could draw on the history that is our very own, honourable senators, and draw also on the history which is embodied in these buildings, and even in this chamber, perhaps honourable senators could cast their eyes to two of the paintings which were donated by Lord Beaverbrook. To the right is the painting "The Cloth Hall at Ypres." To the left is a painting of Flemish peasants returning to their homes after the liberation, entitled, "Returning to the Reconquered Land." I am sure many honourable senators know that area very well; it consists of a few miles of land called "Flanders Fields". We all know the poem *In Flanders Fields*. That area claimed 100,000 unknown dead and a million casualties. It took 35 lives to regain every square metre of this area called Flanders Fields. I am sure many in this chamber have visited that area, and if, as a Canadian today, one goes through that area called Ypres Salient, one will discover that Canadians are very welcome.

These were the battlefields—Passchendaele, St. Julien, Ypres, and on and on.

Just as one goes past the Cloth Hall at Ypres, and proceeds down the byways, one arrives at a monument entitled "The Monument of St. Julien". That monument was erected in honour of 18,000 Canadian soldiers who withstood the gas attacks. Beside that monument is a very famous statue, that of a soldier with head bowed entitled, "The Brooding Soldier."

Around the altar in the Memorial Chamber in these Parliament Buildings the following words, taken from *Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan, are inscribed:

My marks and scars I carry with me to
Be a witness for me that I have fought
His battles who now will be my rewarder,
So he passed over, and all the trumpets
Sounded for him on the other side.

That, honourable senators, is Canadian internationalism.

If I sound somewhat emotional, it is because these particular subjects are quite moving to me because, honourable senators, I bear a Flemish name. If you open up the telephone books all through this area you will see the name of Cools countless times.

● (1500)

Honourable senators, I would now like to continue on this issue of renewed internationalism. I shall speak au courant because today marks the election of a new government on the Island of Grenada in the West Indies. As we look forward to the initiatives that Mr. Mulroney's government is going to take, I for one am very interested in the future role of CIDA and of Canada in the Commonwealth and in the Third World.

As we know, two years ago in Grenada there was carnage of the type that the British Commonwealth Caribbean has never previously experienced. I would like to share a few things with