

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, December 14, 1983

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONDEMNATION OF GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED POLICIES

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, this is a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde Government. It says one thing but does another. Take the Throne Speech for instance.

The Speech says: "Environment 2000 will be created to carry out . . . national park development", but in practice this Government destroyed a park in Banff to accommodate a former Liberal Cabinet Minister's hotel.

The Speech says: "The Government is to reduce poverty among the aged." But the Government refuses to help needy women between the ages of 50 and 65.

The Speech says: "Extend native rights." And yet it does nothing to relieve poverty on our reservations, where in one case 20 people had to live in a house built for six.

The Speech says: "The Government will make divorce more equitable." During the years of the present Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), morality has gone down the drain; marriage takes second place; and common-law wives are now given privileges not extended to married women.

The Speech talks about building a national partnership for prosperity. In practice this Government attacks the provincial Governments at every turn.

The Speech talks about restraint, yet the Government spent \$50 million on compulsory metric.

Like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, this Liberal Government will die a terrible death, and the sooner the better.

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TRADE

DUMPING OF UNITED STATES POTATOES ON BRITISH COLUMBIA MARKET

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta): Madam Speaker, two days ago the potato farmers of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island won a very important anti-dumping action brought against them by the farmers of

the State of Maine. I wish to congratulate the farmers on their victory over very unjust treatment.

Also, I wish to express the anxiety felt by farmers in other regions of Canada, particularly in British Columbia, anxiety that possibly the success in eastern Canada is going to make the Government less vigilant and dampen the Government's determination to pursue the matter of unjust treatment on the West Coast where the farmers of Washington State are dumping potatoes on the market in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia.

I simply want to take this opportunity to urge the Government to pursue the matter of unjust treatment of the farmers of British Columbia in that marketplace with the same kind of vigour with which it pursued the matter in eastern Canada.

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[Translation]

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

CERTAIN REMARKS ABOUT QUEBEC MEMBERS

Mr. Pierre Gimaiel (Lac-Saint-Jean): First of all, Madam Speaker, I should like to say that we are glad to see you back in the chair of the House. Secondly, I want to take a few seconds to point out to you that yesterday, in a flight of oratory, the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Mulroney) referred to us as the clowns from Quebec. Once again I cannot let that remark of the Hon. Member for Central Nova go unchallenged. First and foremost, it is important to recall that, in this House and throughout the country, Canadians have been ever respectful of one another during the past century. Unfortunately, the Leader of the Official Opposition has yet to understand that every time he says something about Quebecers or refers to Quebec, he never fails to use the word clowns or to make Quebecers believe that he knew what was going on in my riding when he was more than 1,000 kilometres removed from my hometown of Schefferville. In others words, seeking to woo the electors in English-speaking regions or in other provinces by attacking Quebecers, including snide remarks about the personal life of their representatives, does not reflect the way Canada was built and, more to the point, that is not the type of man Canadians want as Prime Minister.

Madam Speaker, I mention this with the hope that the Hon. Member for Central Nova will appreciate that mutual respect and constructive ideas just might be his stepping stone to becoming an outstanding politician—unless he has already lost