

The Address—Mr. Caouette

Whereas democracy, while offering advantages to the people, first imposes responsibilities, such as keeping an eye on public affairs, studying the problems related thereto and submitting to legislators the required solutions.

The officers of the Rouyn-Noranda Union of Electors, gathered in regular meeting this twentieth day of January, 1949, beg you to take the opportunity offered by the coming session to ask for:

1. The setting-up of a crucifix in the House of Commons.

In view of the fact that Canada claims to be a Christian nation, we believe that there will be and that there is no objection to the placing of a crucifix in this house. We should not be ashamed to proclaim our belief, even in this house.

2. The appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican.

A few days ago, on the orders of the day, I asked the reasons for our failure to appoint an ambassador to the Vatican. We have ambassadors to various countries throughout the world, and while many other nations are represented at the Holy See, in Rome, Canada which claims to be a Christian nation has no envoy there. We ask that an ambassador be appointed to the Vatican.

3. Vigorous protests against the arrest of Cardinal Mindszenty.

Once again, we shall probably be told that Canada should not interfere with the domestic affairs of another country. When the question arose of declaring war to safeguard the very existence of that fine country named Poland, never was it said in Canada that we should not intervene in the domestic problems of foreign countries. Well, I believe that the government is now bound to protest most strongly against the arrest of the primate of Hungary.

4. That the government put a stop to its present policy of mass immigration.

Mr. Speaker, in the constituency which I have the honour to represent in this house, there have come, for many months, hundreds and hundreds of immigrants labelled "D.P.'s from Europe".

In many of our mines, these immigrants have replaced French-Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Name them.

Mr. Caouette: We will name them in due course.

Mr. Beaudry: Were they brought in by force or in answer to requests from companies?

Mr. Caouette: They have been requested by the companies. That is why I placed the

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question on the order paper. Let us put a stop to mass immigration, which aims to replace our Canadian people. I believe mass immigration is being carried on here and there in Canada and in many places. Canadians are faced with an untenable situation and unbearable conditions.

I read in *La Terre de chez nous* of November 24, an article headed thus:

To be confirmed or denied: In some countries, when danger threatens, and there are brawls, riots or a state of emergency, martial law is proclaimed. Has Canada reached that stage? Are army officials and their friends so alarmed by persistent rumours of war that they find it necessary to use force to compel Canadian youths to enlist. Such appears to be the view expressed by an editorial in the *Front Ouvrier*, of Montreal. In 1939-40, hosts of volunteers were secured in Canada by means of service-pay offered the weary, hungry, unemployed. Are men being thrown out of work in order to repeat the process? But here is more from the newspaper I mentioned: "Young men are being driven into the army. An item from the Eastern Townships states that in four days 125 young men were let out in Asbestos; 60 on the first day; 40 the next day; 20 and 5 on the third and fourth days respectively.

In Mégantic, 250 young men were laid off during a very short time.

We are told that in Sherbrooke, young men were being refused employment in October. There too, it seems, young men are being advised to enlist.

After reporting those facts, the *Front Ouvrier* deems it should conclude that war propaganda is anything but unrelated to the dismissals mentioned. That statement is so serious that the federal authorities should deny it. . . or confirm it. True, to confirm it it has but to remain silent. The item, the first part of which I have already quoted, concludes as follows:

"One can readily see that some sort of war propaganda is responsible for all this. There is no question of war yet in parliament, but our young men are already compelled to live on a war footing.

This year alone, the government is spending \$280 million on war. Enough to see 70,000 young men through university each year, together with a \$60 monthly allowance. With that much money we could build a half-million dollar technical school in every constituency in Canada; 125,000 young boys and girls could learn a trade and even receive enough money to live comfortably.

Our young people have the right to object to being disposed of without the people's representatives being asked first to express their views on the matter.

Some sort of disguised conscription is still in effect in Canada, in the province of Quebec and more particularly in the constituency I have the honour of representing.

Mr. Speaker, we shall protest against mass immigration of young and older people as long as all Canadians living in Canada do not enjoy security and until freedom and social justice are guaranteed one and all.

That the Canadian government re-establish all veterans in civilian life as quickly as possible while fully respecting the freedom of choice of everyone concerned.