

*The Address—Mrs. Mailly*

growth, because there are too many factors involved, and therefore we need this flexibility in order to cope with the rainy days.

In the Speech from the Throne, we gave a clear picture of how we are going to obtain the flexibility we need to cope with the lean years. We also discussed a new approach to consultations with the provinces. My Government's management of federal-provincial relations will pursue three basic objectives: to harmonize policies of our two orders of government, to ensure respect for their jurisdictions, and to end unnecessary and costly duplication. These are not just words but very definite goals. There is a good example of all this in my constituency today, where Canexel, a CIP factory, has just received an order to close down by February 14. As soon as I heard the factory was going to close, I got in touch with the mayor of the City of Gatineau, with the Liberal Member of the National Assembly for Gatineau, with the president of the Société d'aménagement de l'Outaouais and with people in the riding who I knew were very much motivated to protect employment in the riding. I did not say: Well, why should I want to work together with the provincial Liberal Member? He might get all the credit, so I should leave him out of it. I did not say: Well, as far as the Société d'aménagement de l'Outaouais is concerned, they have a pequist government and we do not agree on the constitutional issue, so why should I want to work with people who do not share my opinions? No, I said to myself: Our objective is to save 250 jobs at Canexel. That is why we got to work right away. Tomorrow we are having meetings with officials from the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion, to bring together potential buyers and experts from the federal and provincial development services, to make sure that the decisions we want to make will be both favourable to Gatineau and not detrimental to the area where the factory was to be transferred. So this is all very concrete. When we say consultation, we mean consultation.

My Government is also committed to ensuring that the equality of both official languages is respected in fact as it is in law.

*[English]*

Most people are in favour of bilingualism in Canada. The problem arises from the methods which are used to establish the bilingualism of the country. There is also a great deal of fear in those Canadians who live in certain regions of the country and who have not the advantage of living with people who speak a language other than English, except perhaps some European languages. They have been used to hearing people from Europe speaking various languages, but perhaps have not been exposed to North American French-speaking people. There is a great deal of fear.

I feel that if the previous administration made a mistake in its bilingualism policy, it was in not considering that when we want to have something adopted which deals with emotions, culture and attitudes, the first thing we must do is remove the fear which will be the greatest obstacle to making progress.

That is why I am very pleased that my Party and the Government have realized that we must push bilingualism, but on the other hand that we must address ourselves to the legitimate fears of a great many people who are unfamiliar with life in a dual-language society. This is why it is a very important part of the Speech from the Throne.

*[Translation]*

We want to respect the equality of both languages. There is also reference to the methods that will be used to make all Canadians, whatever their mother tongue, aware of the importance of bilingualism in Canada in terms of justice, intrinsic value and the cultural wealth it represents. The constitutional agreement will remain incomplete as long as Quebec is not part of an accord. While their main responsibility is to achieve economic renewal the Ministers will work to create the conditions that will make possible the achievement of the prime objective.

Furthermore, this Government is committed not only to reconciliation but also to creating an economic consensus. Here again, creating a consensus is not a vague statement. It is a very practical statement. For instance, if we do not start the consultation process, we will never develop the solutions we need to deal with our very complex problems. We must have balanced development in the regions. We must also stop the duplication of efforts by provincial and federal governments because we no longer have the tremendous growth we experienced in the sixties. It is therefore imperative that we maximize the funds earmarked for economic development. That consensus is absolutely essential. There can be no progress without it.

Not only will the next summit seek to achieve a consensus but it will also gather under one roof spokespersons for consumers, women, native people, businessmen, unions and government officials. We will then have the wide variety of consultations needed to choose policies that will reflect real conditions in all regions as well as the country's real economic situation. As soon as the situation improves, we will be in a position to implement all the necessary programs or changes.

I am convinced that throwing lots of money left and right to score points or impress people will not solve our problems. On the contrary, I believe that the reason why Canada finds itself in this predicament is that this method has been used too often. They wanted to impress people instead of sitting down in a way which some people who like to show off would describe as being less dramatic and less ostentatious, but such methods will be far more constructive, competent and effective to solve the problems.

Perhaps there will be other summits on increased productivity. Everybody knows that we must increase productivity. When we talk about productivity, we do not mean that people ought to work harder and that they are lazy; no, we mean that the machinery is obsolete, that markets are not properly studied, that some products are simply left on the shelf. That is what productivity is all about, it is a lot more than simply telling people that they have to work much harder during their