

The Address—Mr. Chaplin

of ignoring any longer this fact. Now the government ought to take immediately the necessary steps for the expansion of our maritime trade, our fisheries and the modernization of our navy, but based on a national plan intended to promote first of all our Canadian shipyards, for the old saying is that one's best master is oneself.

We have raw materials, skilled labour, well equipped shipyards: let us make good use of them. The machine is in order and well greased: it is up to us to start it. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I have supported the brilliant and gigantic work done along this line by the impetuous but dedicated member for Levis (Mr. Guay). I can assure you that we shall keep on working together harder than ever with the same purpose and towards the same goal.

Mr. Speaker, those are a few ideas from what is usually called in this house a "back-bencher". I should like, incidentally, to point out that in the Liberal party, on this side of the house, we consider this term outmoded, for we are all united, and if we are not all in the first row it is merely because the distribution of seats in the house does not allow it.

I shall conclude my remarks, Mr. Speaker, as I started them, by appealing to reason and to national unity.

Undoubtedly to emphasize the importance they attach to our relations with France and Britain, the present government has just appointed as our representative in those countries two prominent men in the persons of Mr. Chevrier and Mr. Leger and they are to be highly commended for that. That is another contribution of the French sector to the greatness of our country.

I will also remind you briefly of my eager wish for the appointment of a representative to the Holy See. This is even more imperative now inasmuch as the pilgrimage which Our Holy Father Pope Paul VI made recently to the Holy Land is considered throughout the world as a milestone on the road leading to full unity of peoples of all races and religious persuasions.

It was a comfort to my national pride to hear the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) assure us that we would soon have a flag of our own—I really do hope so—a typically Canadian flag, free of any sign of former domination which could offend any of our ethnical groups. Such a flag will strengthen the indissoluble ties which link together all the elements which contributed to make this comparatively young but strong Canada of ours.

[Text]

In unity we shall survive and progress; in disunity we shall founder in an indescribable calamity. As Dr. Eugene Forsey said recently:

We are told that times have changed since 1867. So they have. But in what direction? We are told that we have moved out of the horse and buggy age. So we have, but to where? Take away the central powers necessary to keep our transport and communications functioning, to bargain our way into world markets, to shield ourselves from sudden market disruptions, to control booms and recessions and maintain anything like full employment, and the economy grinds to a stop. Technology is pushing us away from smaller units toward larger. The threat of communism is doing the same. The rest of the world is moving toward internationalism. Can this country move toward something less than Canadian nationalism?

So let us behave accordingly. The English Canadian and French Canadian pathfinders of our country saw the bloody handwriting on the wall in the American civil war between the northern and southern states. This should be remembered also by the present generation. Hand in hand, with understanding, reason, moderation and hard work we shall succeed in saving our national unity, our economy, for the benefit of a greater Canada so well known and so well respected amongst all nations.

Mr. Gordon Chaplin (Waterloo South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to offer my congratulations to the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the throne and to remark at this time on the excellent speeches they made. They were both well prepared; they were well thought out, and I felt that the subject matter they dealt with was very appropriate for that occasion.

I should also like to comment on the speech that the Prime Minister made in his opening address of this session, particularly the latter part of that speech in which he appealed for unity in the house and throughout Canada. I am sure every member here can subscribe to and support the ideas, aspirations and hopes he expressed at that time.

I have been sitting here listening very attentively to the hon. member who just sat down and I should also like to extend my congratulations to him on the very fine speech he made to the house. I regret very much that as far as I could see there were only six English speaking members here to listen to his very fine address.

Mr. Woolliams: On the other side.

Mr. Chaplin: On the other side, yes. The speech from the throne is most difficult to criticize and it is absolutely impossible to commend. There is nothing that one can get one's teeth into and one has the uncomfortable feeling of a rather bad practical