

When Senator Haig spoke to the Rotary Club at London, Ontario, in 1952 he said:

My experience has taught me that at first when a new member comes into the Senate his political leanings are very marked, but as time goes on he realizes that his duty as a senator is so important that he should forget his politics and put his country first.

Honourable senators, if I should be called upon to make a similar speech I would not be honest if I said that at the present time the Senate is still following that tradition. I deeply regret this departure because I am one who agrees with another statement made by the late Arthur Meighen in the same speech from which I quoted earlier:

Members of the Second Chamber must get away, lift their minds far from those hard-drawn lines of party, or they cannot serve their country.

However, I feel that when very partisan statements have been made, as they have been made here recently, some answers should be forthcoming.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford):** Hear, hear.

**Hon. Mrs. Fergusson:** In listening to the honourable senator from Carleton (Hon. Mr. O'Leary) I found myself in substantial agreement when he expressed amazement at the things government can do, and at some of the things that have been done during the past five years. However, I did find it difficult to follow him in his suggestion that the Government had been inarticulate. How can this be when they have had the services of such well-known public relations artists as the honourable senator from Pickering (Hon. Mr. Grosart), the man who is known from coast to coast as "Mr. Canada" and, last but not least, the honourable senator from Carleton himself?

Publicity has followed the Government's actions, and certainly few issues have received such worldwide attention over the past quarter century, and stirred the Canadian people to such depths, as did the Coyne affair, the attempt to talk the dollar down which culminated in the dollar crisis, and the Government's handling of the Common Market problem.

I found myself again in agreement with the honourable senator when he stated that we could only consider the Speech from the Throne in a realistic and useful way when the legislation which stems from it comes before this house. It is hoped that it will not be too long before Government policy in respect to some of the more urgent issues becomes apparent.

In this connection I would like to refer to a press report of certain remarks made by Per Jacobsson, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, as reported in the *Montreal Star* under date of September 17 last. The report reads:

Fund managing director Per Jacobsson told reporters at a weekend press conference he hoped the success of Canada's austerity program would not lead her people to believe economic stability could be achieved without additional permanent measures for the future.

Jacobsson said he found it "very useful" that Bank of Canada governor Louis Rasminsky's recent report made Ottawa believe clear that steps taken so far did not eliminate the need for a long-term solution to the country's financial crisis.

Mr. Jacobsson also said:

I hope Canada's emergency program is not too successful, or they will think a long-term program is not needed.

To me, one of the most disturbing and distressing features of the present situation is our apparent loss of stature among our friends abroad and our near neighbours—and I say this in spite of the protest of my friends opposite.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Braniford):** Hear, hear.

**Hon. Mrs. Fergusson:** The remarks of the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, which I have read to you, certainly suggest some doubt as to what he thinks may be expected from us. Obviously we have lost stature in the United States. The remarks of the honourable senator from Carleton (Hon. Mr. O'Leary), in dealing with the Common Market and the position of the British Government, and his references to the stand taken by the British press, leave little doubt but that our relations with the British people are at an all-time low.

I cannot agree with the honourable senator that in Canada discussion of the Common Market is almost illiterate. Certainly there is wide consciousness of Canada's present and future dependence on foreign markets for the extension of our economy, and that good relations are more or less a prerequisite to expanding trade. There has also been wide discussion of the possibility that Great Britain might find it essential to her welfare and survival to join the Common Market. With discussion centred on these basic premises, I cannot see how the public can be considered illiterate on the subject.

As far back as June 1960, when I was addressing this house during the debate on