

"bad" English Canadians. The idea is to divide and conquer.

The second step was to introduce a flag, wiping out the English connection with the past and making the English Canadian anti-Quebec. Having taken this step, this same party prolonged the debate in the other place until they had in the end to use closure, or the guillotine, to close off the debate.

The present Government could at any time during these past few months have set aside the flag resolution in the other place and brought in other legislation that was pressing for consideration. But no, they were anxious to win the next election. They thought that with the aid of the news media they could destroy the Conservative party in Canada and, more particularly, in Quebec. To my mind the flag resolution was sheer political blackmail being practised in the Province of Quebec.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Order. I am very sorry to interrupt the honourable senator, but the expression he used is unparliamentary, and I would ask him to withdraw it. During his speech he has apparently gone beyond his intentions. I hope the honourable senator will see fit to withdraw that expression.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I apologize.

Honourable senators, I have nothing further to say, but I feel that this flag will not now unite Canada and that it never will.

Senator Cameron suggested that 65 or 75 per cent of the people want a distinctive flag. I think he is right. However, in western Canada everybody I spoke to in the German settlements and in the English settlements wanted to know why we prolonged this debate. I said, "Well, do you want a new flag, or are you satisfied with the present one?" "Oh, we didn't want to change our flag," they replied. This is the sentiment I have found all through western Canada, wherever I have been. They did not want any change, but they were quite willing to make a change if it would bring about unity with Quebec.

Honourable senators, I support the amendment.

**Hon. Jean-François Pouliot:** Honourable senators, I know I tell you nothing new when I say that I was born in Rivière du Loup, Quebec, that my father was born 108 years ago in Rivière du Loup, Quebec, that my grandfather lived 150 years ago at Rivière du Loup, Quebec. Rivière du Loup is 400 miles east of Ottawa, on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River. It is a splendid part of the country. At that point the river is 20 miles wide with beautiful islands, Hare Island, White Island, the Pilgrims, Green Island, and the Brandy Pots which got their name from the smuggling that took place in the olden

days. The air is pure; it smells of seaweed when the tide is low, and when it is high the river is like a lake below my veranda.

The people of Rivière du Loup are wonderful people; they are friendly and broadminded, and they would not recognize themselves in the picture that has been painted of them by honourable Senator Pearson. They would ask, "Of whom are you speaking? You are not speaking of us. You are speaking from the planet Mars, or you are lost on the moon—you are the first man to get to the moon." I say that in a jocular way. I am not offended, because I know the honourable gentleman was not serious, and I am sure he has never visited Rivière du Loup. I know he has never met the people of Rivière du Loup. I am proud to be one of them.

Quebec is a delightful province. I am sure his colleagues from the Province of Quebec, or those who have visited that province, will say to him, "My dear Pearson, why did you say that? You don't know what damage you have done to the party." It rather reminds me of the man who was trying to reach the summit of a mountain and he was depending upon his alpenstock, but the alpenstock broke and he fell down.

One point that strikes me is that the honourable gentleman represents Prince Albert, the place where his honourable Leader lives at the present time. I shall speak of him; I know him well, and he is a friend of mine.

I remember seeing on one occasion a picture of a good-looking gentleman with curly hair and with the stature of an officer. He was in front of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There was a brass plate at the door on which was written full length "Dominion Bureau of Statistics." He stared at it, rolled his eyes and said "Dominion will stay in there." It was said by no less than the Right Honourable John Diefenbaker, before he became "right honourable". He looked again at that piece of brass. He was so enthusiastic about it that he could have written a poem about the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. He was thinking of that; he did not want to change anything in it. As we know, it remained as it was then.

I know my fellow citizens well enough to give them the benefit of the doubt, and I know very well that in the Province of Ontario and perhaps in the Province of Saskatchewan where my honourable friend comes from, there is the salute to the flag in the morning by the little children who go to school. Sometimes they may miss their prayers, but the first thing they do is to stand erect before the flag and salute it, just as John Diefenbaker stood erect before the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. However, they salute that flag, a flag which has no maple leaf on it at all. It is