

Alleged Lack of Government Leadership

members of the old line parties because they were crawling on all fours before the contributors to the electoral funds. In fact, instead of following ideas expressed by their constituents, those members were willing to bend backwards in order to please their leader, to remain within their party and to keep the electoral fund well filled. What we see today is another striking example.

Mr. Speaker, when we think of all the travelling done by the Liberal leader to New York or Washington, when we see all the support he can obtain from the Americans, we are wondering whether the electoral fund of the Liberal party will not be replenished by our neighbours to the south, for the next election.

The June 18 election has established one fact. Today, the people understand, the people have seen through the makeup of the two old parties. They have realized that they have been too long betrayed and deceived by the old parties. People know that there is something stronger than electoral funds, something stronger than the financial backers behind the electoral funds. That is the will of the people expressed on voting day which can make or break political parties, financiers and electoral funds. Now gentlemen of the two old parties, you will see in the next election that the people have understood that you were betraying them and selling them down the river to financial interests.

Mr. Speaker, when we are told: "Let us accept nuclear arms, let us arm the Bomarc missiles with nuclear warheads", and at the same time we hear that, "of course, the Bomarc missiles are now obsolete, they are of no use by now, they are just like peashooters", we may wonder why there is so much propaganda today in this country for having Canada buy obsolete armament, which is not going to be used anyway.

Those gentlemen on the back benches while blindly following their leader, who is serving other interests, might well wonder, if such attitude is not simply helping those financially interested who, as they always did in the past, want to get rich producing arms, for which we have to pay taxes and levies.

Mr. Speaker, the Liberal party has won a good name in the past. Our Canadian citizens, and more particularly those of the province of Quebec, were hired for our armament plants. In that way, the Liberals created work, paid salaries, and, once their munitions were manufactured, these were thrown into the St. Lawrence river, under the bridge to the island of Orleans, which gave the Liberal party an excellent reputation.

[Mr. Gregoire.]

Mr. Caouette: And what about Sorel?

Mr. Gregoire: At Sorel, it was the same thing.

But today, they don't even want our Canadians to work in arms factories. No, they want to get arms from the United States, to enrich American money-men, forgetting, at the same time, that they failed to give jobs to our Canadian citizens. I would rather that those arms were made in Canada to be thrown into the river later. At least, our Canadian citizens would be able to get some work. Today, they would rather go and buy nuclear bombs, which only the Americans are able to manufacture and which are controlled by them, when and if they sell us some. Afterwards, we are told: "We shall never use them."

And, as far as we are concerned, we must pay for them. Should we let them do this without telling the Canadian people that it is their own money, paid in taxes and imposts, which will buy arms that will not only increase the danger of war and tension in the world, but will never be used and will remain under complete American control? Should we accept that? Never.

Mr. Cardin: Would the hon. member allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. Gregoire: Ask any question you want.

Mr. Cardin: Does the hon. member not think that it is up to the Canadian government to take all possible action and to acquire every possible armament to protect Canada against communism?

Mr. Gregoire: Certainly. But the hon. member does not know which arms can really fight communism. In fact, communism has never been successfully fought by warfare. On the contrary, it has developed during wars. And those who are responsible for the resurgence of capitalism throughout the world are politicians like those who are sitting on my right and on the opposite benches, who have never tried to help people find lodging and food, and who have done nothing to alleviate their hardships. It is then that communism is born. Russia is the most striking example I can find of a country where communism crept in under cover of a war. The Polish people did not want communism. It was forced upon them in the course of a war, and the same thing happened in Czechoslovakia and in Hungary. The citizens of those two countries did not want war, but they were compelled with guns—

Mr. Cardin: Could I put a question to the hon. member?