

and management. This is the type of bonding between management and labour we need to see throughout this great country which would strengthen and support the return to prosperity we would all like to see.

First and foremost, Mr. Speaker, we have a firm commitment to the people of Canada to grant a reprieve from the harsh sentence imposed on them in the past. We have a commitment and responsibility to the millions who cast their vote in favour of change, in favour of new and better leadership. Progressive Conservatives have always maintained their honesty, integrity and trustworthiness in a business that has lately been characterized by something less than that. We are not about to change our approach now. We have been delivered a trust and we will not falter.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. James: Mr. Speaker, I believe in Canada. I believe in her people and I believe in her future. Canada is ready and waiting to be guided into greatness. I believe this Government will lead Canada to her full potential. We owe it not only to this generation but to generations to come.

I will close my remarks with a quotation which I think is fitting: "The difference between a politician and a statesman is: A politician thinks of the next election and a statesman thinks of the next generation".

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Montreal-Mercier (Mrs. Jacques), that the following Address be presented to Her Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To Her Excellency the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé, a member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada, Chancellor and Commander of the Order of Military Merit, upon whom has been conferred the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

● (1120)

[*Translation*]

Mrs. Carole Jacques (Montreal-Mercier): Mr. Speaker, first of all, I wish to thank the Right Hon. Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) and his Cabinet for bestowing this privilege on me. It is an honour that I appreciate personally, and it is also one that voters in Montreal-Mercier will remember for many years. It is a mark of confidence that denotes the beginning of a new era: the Government is asking the youngest female Member of the House to second the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

[*English*]

Your election, Mr. Speaker, also reflects a vote of confidence from all Members and Ministers toward the new generation. To all my colleagues I wish to reiterate that it was the

The Address—Mrs. Jacques

Right Hon. John Diefenbaker who nominated the first woman in his Cabinet.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. Jacques: Since then the political role of Canadian women has changed and progressed immensely.

[*Translation*]

Women have taken an active part in broadening the debate on major national and social issues. I salute the determination and courage of those women who were pioneers in their field. In dealing with the major challenges that await it, this Government will have to take into account women's demands and their economic and social needs, failing which it will take that much longer to achieve our objectives.

At the end of the day on September 4 of this year, the message given by the Canadian people and the voters of Montreal-Mercier was a clear one, namely, a desire to restore and renew this country's national, economic and social equilibrium. We have seen that Canadians are in favour of new ideas and new approaches to major issues. I was very pleased to hear that the Government intends to enhance the role of the individual Member, to rebuild a national consensus based on dialogue and establishing common goals, to seek a genuine national consensus on both economic and social issues, to ensure social justice and finally, to renew and enlarge our international participation.

The role played by Members in their ridings is perhaps better known and more appreciated than the role they play in the House of Commons. People appreciate the importance of Members being available to their constituents. However, Members must also be given a more active part in the business of the House. The Government's plan to review the organization of the House of Commons should be supported by Members since it will afford them new ways of being more active and more involved in the business of the House and supporting the work of Cabinet.

As was said in the Speech from the Throne, the three basic objectives in federal-provincial relations will be to harmonize policies of both levels of government, to ensure respect for their jurisdictions and to end unnecessary and costly duplication, and I am sure everyone will agree that these objectives must form the basis of a renewed relationship. This Government recognizes that the Province of Quebec has a major role to play within the Canadian Confederation.

● (1125)

[*English*]

The Province of Quebec must be a financial partner fully contributing to the economic growth of this nation. The Constitution will not be complete until the Province of Quebec agrees to become fully part of this agreement.