

The Address—Mr. Masse

The federal government should not, either at present or as long as the present constitutional arrangement persists, give direct aid for scholarships except for research or post-graduate study. As for scholarships at other levels, the government should do nothing whatsoever without a formal agreement with the provinces.

I wonder if it is in that paragraph that they sin against the autonomy of the province. Further on, at page 355 of the same report, it is stated:

We therefore recommend:

(a) That in addition to the help already being given for research and other purposes the federal government make annual contributions to support the work of the universities on the basis of the population of each of the provinces of Canada.

(b) That these contributions be made after consultation with the government and the universities of each province, to be distributed to each university proportionately to the student enrolment.

(c) That these contributions be sufficient to ensure that the work of the universities of Canada may be carried on in accordance with the needs of the nation.

(d) That all members of the national conference of Canadian universities be eligible for the federal grants mentioned above.

When Rev. Father Levesque supports such a recommendation, how can he be accused of sinning against the autonomy of our province. The Massey commission is accused of being a centralizing commission and a deadly germ for the province of Quebec. The deadly germ for the province of Quebec is not the Massey commission, but rather the speak-easies.

There is another remark I would direct to my colleague from Chicoutimi (Mr. Gagnon). When he involves my race and states that our soldiers are being discriminated against in the armed forces, I have great doubts as to the truth of his charges. I have been a professor at the university for 30 years and I can assure you that any time a student failed in his exams, it was always the professor's fault. Two years ago, a good friend of mine was unable, for some reason or other, to obtain the degrees he sought to obtain. He felt himself cheated. He asked me to carry out an investigation. I was told that, in his case, he might obtain the promotion he sought in another sphere. This young man therefore entered another branch of the army and today he is a real asset to his unit.

The remarks I have just made have not been put forward as a criticism, but with a view of expressing the opinion of the voters who elected me to represent them here. In these difficult times, it is imperative that everyone do his duty, so as to ensure the welfare of all our people.

[Mr. Masse.]

(Text):

Mr. W. Chester S. McLure (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I want to take advantage of this debate to say a few words in connection with an urgent matter affecting the district which I have the honour to represent. Last night I listened to a broadcast from the motherland and was glad to hear that our gracious majesty, the king, is gradually recovering. May it be God's blessing and will that he be fully restored to his usual good health.

Though they may be somewhat delayed, I should like to say a few words about the visit of The Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to our capital city. Along with all hon. members of the house I rejoiced at having the opportunity to meet Their Royal Highnesses at the reception. I want at this time to thank the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) for giving me the introduction he did. I was almost lost in the long line and although the aide introduced me the Prime Minister in quite an audible voice said, "The member of parliament from Prince Edward Island". Everybody knows the treasure island province, except the Postmaster General (Mr. Rinfret), and Her Royal Highness extended her hand and said most graciously, "You came a long way to see me". I am not going to place on the record my reply to her nice remark, be it romantic or diplomatic, because it does not matter, but it did bring forth a most gracious smile and handshake from Her Royal Highness. Again I want to thank the Prime Minister for having given me this opportunity.

The visit of these members of the royal family has had a good effect throughout Canada. It has knit together our two countries, and made stronger the ties and bonds that bind us to the mother country. May it be the will of Divine Providence that these two countries grow closer together than ever. May their ties and bonds be stronger than ever, so they can show to the whole world that they stand for the best form of civilization. An opportunity was given Canada to show her warmth to Her Royal Highness and her husband and also to bind ourselves more closely to the mother country.

In passing, I should like to say a word about the reception given by the city of Ottawa to Their Royal Highnesses. A great many things one way or another have been said about this, but I want to say that I was proud of