

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing the House that the Senate have passed Bill S-7, to provide for the prohibition of certain international air services, to which the concurrence of the House is desired.

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SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mrs. Côté for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session.

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I rise to participate in the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne with some mixed emotions. My emotions are mixed by many things. They are mixed by the fact that this is the third speech I have written because over three months have transpired since the Speech from the Throne was delivered. I sympathize with the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Collenette); he had the same difficulty, only he had to do it in three different stages.

Also my emotions are mixed by the government's record since April 14, the heat of July, the imminent return to our constituencies and families and our frustrations at both the lack of action, on the one hand, and the method of action, on the other.

It is my understanding that the Speech from the Throne is designed to outline the government's legislative program and what it will do, its philosophical attitude toward its term of office. Since my remarks provide me with an opportunity to review what the government has done, I should like to review the Speech from the Throne. I say to the member who spoke before me that when he commenced to address the Speech from the Throne, he indicated that he would review the great number of things his government had done since April 14. I took pen to paper and thought that I would make sure I did not miss anything. I made note of the \$35 GIS increase, the \$80 million to Petro-Canada, and then I stopped writing because that is all there was.

An hon. Member: You missed something.

Mr. Lewis: If the hon. member sticks around, he will not. In the original Speech from the Throne, His Excellency referred to the opportunity he had to visit the provincial capitals and the Northwest Territories during his first year of office. I make reference to that because of the fact he mentioned he was looking forward to visiting smaller communities across our vast and beautiful land. We in the riding of Simcoe North were pleased in June when he visited us. He has become a man of the people. He moves among the people very readily. He and his wife bring a grace and a presence, a warmth and a

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tradition of that office to the country of Canada. I am pleased to say that he is very, very well received in the country.

The Speech from the Throne referred to serious challenges. Canadians everywhere would agree that we face serious challenges, though we are fortunate enough to have great opportunities. The people of my riding will face those challenges in the 1980s as they have in the past. There is a determined resilience and an energy in my constituency and all of Canada to conquer the challenges of the eighties. The Speech from the Throne called for action. We commend the government's desire for that action.

Reference was made in the Speech from the Throne to the accumulation of essential legislation left from previous Parliaments. We were asked to dispatch that backlog expeditiously. It was suggested that the government is relying on the good will of members and senators of all parties. I was a new member during the last Parliament and I watched members opposite to see what good will was all about. I saw them debate the budget of the hon. member for Saint-Maurice (Mr. Chrétien) of the fall of 1978 for 21 days during the fall of 1979 although it had not been changed. Where was that good will last fall? Where was that good will on the night of April 21 when the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) introduced a ways and means motion which was substantially what he condemned in December? Where was that good will when our party and the New Democratic Party were denied the traditional right to review that legislation? Sure, it was a ways and means motion, but Your Honour and I know it was legislation. Where was that good will?

I understand the Minister of Finance is suffering from a throat infection. It is no wonder, because that throat has had to swallow a lot of pride. If there was any good will left after April 21, it was blasted out of the water on July 11, which was a Friday, late in the week, when the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) introduced his infamous tax on Canadian people. I know Mr. Speaker's background is that of a lawyer. There is a saying in the courts, "If you come to court demanding equity and justice, you must come with clean hands". I say to the government, "If you come to us relying on our good will, you must demonstrate good will yourself".

Reference has been made today and in the throne speech to the referendum in Quebec. On May 20 the people of Quebec went to the polls. Sixty per cent voted to remain a part of Canada and 40 per cent showed their dissatisfaction. I think 100 per cent deserve a better deal from this government. One hundred per cent of all Canadians deserve a better deal from the federal government.

● (1620)

I wonder where the Liberal party has been for the last 17 years. Why was this dissatisfaction on the part of Quebecers allowed to reach the point where they challenged the federal government, which is controlled in all its aspects by an overwhelming Quebec Liberal caucus? That feeling of dissatisfaction pervades all provinces. Unrest is evident everywhere because there is a lack of understanding. We do not like the