

The Address—Mr. T. C. Douglas

A Liberal government has been in office since April, 1963. They are not neophytes. The present administration has been in office since June, 1968. It has had ample time for the studies, white papers, royal commissions, interdepartmental committees and all the paraphernalia that is used to avoid having to make a decision. I say that unless the government comes up with much more specific programs and policies than we have seen to date, it will be the task of this party and the other parties in opposition to try to push the government out of its lethargy and prod it out of its self-satisfied apathy.

• (3:50 p.m.)

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, my first words will certainly be to congratulate the mover and the seconder of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne (Mr. Cullen and Mr. Marceau). I was not here, in the house when they made their speeches but I read them this morning and, under the circumstances, I think that these hon. members have done a tremendous job while omitting to talk about the Speech from the Throne. It was rather difficult for them because the Speech did not have much substance. We can say that the government has some good intentions but that we have often witnessed in the past governments with good intentions.

That did not prevent, for instance, the seconder, the hon. member for Lapointe, from describing the beauties of his area—and I congratulate him for his sincerity—he is right. The Saguenay region is one of the most beautiful areas in Canada. He said, as evidenced on Page 9 of yesterday's *Hansard* and I quote:

The people, a strong and energetic breed are represented, no doubt through a coincidence, by the colour red.

A little further on, the hon. member said:

Unemployment now stands at the alarming level of 14 per cent. Since the labour market cannot absorb the ever increasing number of those who want to join it, qualified workers must leave the area if they do not want to graduate as jobless or become dissenters who protest against an affluent society which denies them the right to earn a decent living.

Mr. Speaker, it is well spoken and I hope that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) will read again this part and will apply the necessary measures to alleviate this situation which prevails not only in the Saguenay area but in various other areas of the country.

[Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands).]

Before coming to the heart of the matter, I would be remiss in my duties if I did not say that I am delighted—since the Prime Minister is in the house—with the firm stand which he has taken for some time now on the terrorists and the CBC. In fact, practically every night the national news of the CBC present Mr. Lemieux of Montreal, a professional agitator who has recently grown two tufts of hair. He looks like an African chimpanzee but he is on television almost every other day.

In the Canadian population there are quite a few sound elements which should be invited by the CBC to say what can be done to unify our country and to make people understand the advantages of a unity respecting everybody's rights. It seems to me that the CBC can still gain some ground and make some wise decisions in this field.

The right hon. Prime Minister said indeed that he trusted the new CBC board. We want to trust them also. However, we believe that if it is true that separatists are invited by the CBC to state their opinions, others should be invited too and this is exactly what CBC does not want to admit.

Mr. Speaker, this does not mean that Ottawa politicians only should be invited to speak on the CBC network.

The right hon. Prime Minister said, in a recent conference, that if its administrators cannot manage to straighten out the CBC, the government would "close shop". Ages ago I said that if the administration of the CBC or the parliament could not handle it, then it should be sold to private interests. Indeed, channel 10 in Montreal creates less trouble than channel 2 of the CBC.

The right hon. Prime Minister attacked the terrorists here in the house. I, too, have repeatedly spoken against them. That does not mean that all separatists are terrorists, nor that all terrorists are separatists. There is quite a difference between the two. One can find, amongst the terrorists, hoodlums who infiltrate organizations, especially with a view to provoking unrest, hand to hand fights, street fighting brawls or destruction, the like of which we witnessed in Montreal on October 7th last.

Mr. Speaker, certain things deserve serious examination. However, that does not necessarily excuse those who spread terror in the city of Montreal, or who would attempt to do so elsewhere. Laws are required to bring them into line; if they are not happy with living in freedom in Canada, then let them bear the yoke in Cuba or Moscow, it matters