

*Interim Supply*

the Secretary of State for External Affairs were allowed to have his way this would not be a fact.

I think the Canadian people are going to be very interested in this election. It seems to me that the Diefenbaker government will not be nearly as popular as it was before. It also seems to me that unless this government sits down and does some thinking it will not have been reborn. It has been said that I belong to a party that is going to have a convention and become something else. Make no mistake about it, Mr. Chairman. The Canadian people did not buy a Conservative government. They bought the Diefenbaker government because they thought it was different and lately they have realized how different. It was without a doubt an odd-ball among unorthodox governments if there has ever been one.

We belong to a party, Mr. Chairman, that is going to develop a policy that will, I am sure, be the culmination of discussions that have gone on in every community and every organization which we have had the opportunity to interest. They have discussed our program. Our program will be a program of the people and I am quite sure that most of us will be in a position to give it wholehearted support. We hope that the government will be interested in calling an election on the basis of this kind of program.

**Mr. Benidickson:** The program is not known yet.

**Mr. Peters:** They are in the position, if they wish, to fight the election on Senate reform. I am interested in going home from this place tonight with the hope that the Prime Minister was being honest with the people when he said that if the other place did not do so and so he would have to go to a higher court and there would have to be an election. I hope that is exactly what he does because I am interested in solutions for unemployment. We are interested in solutions for such things as portable pensions. We have heard the Minister of Finance talk about helping the provincial governments to get into this field. We think that the federal government should move into this field right away and hope and expect that the provincial governments will follow.

As far as agriculture is concerned, maybe there is nothing wrong with agriculture but I think something should be done to solve some of the problems. We have had such reports as eggs selling for 15 cents a dozen. This does not happen in my part of the country which obviously means that we should

remove the regional basis from the stabilization act and apply the act across the country so that no farmer will get only 15 cents a dozen for eggs.

We believe that marketing legislation is necessary on a planned basis not only to handle grain. The government is to be congratulated for the efforts it has made through the wheat board to sell grain as that board has done for other governments. We believe that the same thing should be done in order to establish markets for milk, cheese, butter and other commodities from the sale of which our farmers are not getting a decent standard of living. I will not talk about all the other problems that agriculture has. Certainly we have a calamity in western Canada. This situation has developed because the Liberal government would not do anything. The Saskatchewan river dam should have been built a long time ago and if it had been in operation now it would have solved the problem for many thousands of farmers in western Canada. Now all we can do is to help the farmers in some way.

I make this suggestion, Mr. Chairman. Let us bring some of those farmers to my area in northern Ontario. The hay on many of the farms there has not been cut for quite a number of years. The municipalities own many of them and they would be quite willing to rent equipment to the farmers so they could cut the hay. They could then ask for government assistance to transport the hay to the west. Let us offer them something good and have them do something for themselves as well. We will co-operate and I am sure that if the government gives leadership this will be of assistance to them.

One of our greatest needs is something about which the government has never done anything, the establishment of a department to handle industrial development. In northern Ontario as in the maritimes and other depressed areas of Canada—they may not like the word “depressed” and there may be a better one—they are not capable at the present time of providing employment for the people who live in those areas and we believe that a department must be set up to help them, as was done in England, and to give consideration to the moving of industry from overcrowded places like Toronto to areas that are much more in need of industries than such cities are. We believe in economic planning and this means planning for our industry and our communities. There are many communities in the country that are now pleading for government aid, leadership and assistance in order to do something about this problem. These, Mr. Chairman, are some of the election