

those lines had anything to do with some of the omissions. I would refer to the House of Commons *Hansard* of February 24, at page 116, reporting a speech made by a very bright young man, Mr. Erik Nielsen. Mr. Nielsen had this to say, and I quote:

I went through some election pamphlets and material published by the Liberal party in the last election campaign, and I am going to go through some of the promises which were made.

Then Mr. Nielsen listed 34 promises which had never been fulfilled. This was a possible cause for omissions being made.

Honourable senators, the Speech from the Throne is normally a measuring device by which the nation can rate its administration. I feel that the Throne Speech we heard last week does not give the Government of this day a brilliant rating. One finds difficulties in trying to praise the Speech, as it is such a departure from the promises made during the last federal election.

The Speech can be most noted for its many omissions; besides being one of the shortest ever presented to the Canadian people, it is the most "speechless". One radio commentator said that it had a lot of material but very little cloth.

I am sure everyone will agree with me that it was molded after the so-called "sixty days of decision" which turned out to be sixty days of frustration. It reminded me of an abstract painting. No matter how you look at it, it is deceiving, it is always the same, it means nothing definite, and it leaves much to your imagination.

Honourable senators, what can we expect from a minority government which cannot stand on its own feet without support of minority groups, whose members are today more interested in their salaries than in the affairs of the nation?

However, the Speech from the Throne includes some good announcements. The greatest of all these was the announcement of the visit to Canada by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. I am sure all Canadians are rejoicing that our Queen, Her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth, will visit Canada on the historic occasion of the Interprovincial Conference on Confederation. I am sure we all wish to present to our beloved Queen, as usual, our best and most cordial reception.

Other good news contained in the Speech from the Throne was the announcement of the agreement signed between the American and Canadian Governments relative to the development of the Columbia River. This is a step forward and in the right direction. However, I regret that the Speech omitted completely any reference to the Passamaquoddy tidal power development, which at this date

is a subject of major interest at the eastern coast of the United States and in the Maritimes. I am prepared to accept this as an omission and not a lack of interest on the part of the Government.

I would like to compliment the Government in their undertaking to promote a memorial international park at the Roosevelt summer home at Campobello. I am glad to say thanks for that to the previous Conservative Government, under the Right Honourable John G. Diefenbaker, with the recommendation of the Honourable Hugh John Flemming. The Island of Campobello is now privileged to have a fine bridge, which makes an easy access to the island where this memorial home now stands. I am sure the proposed park will be a great attraction not only for Canadians but for thousands of American citizens.

Honourable senators, I would like to say some words of compliment to the organizers and promoters of the World Fair, especially to Mayor Drapeau; the first commissioner, Mr. Dupuy; and Mr. Shaw, the chief engineer. These men have shown integrity and leadership. They have not feared to face obstruction, and the Canadian people may have the assurance that the exposition of 1967 will be a success. We are not to forget our own honourable Senator Sarto Fournier, who plowed the soil and planted the seed which is now growing into a gigantic enterprise.

The Speech from the Throne mentions a reform of public regulation of railway facilities to meet present and future needs. However, there is no mention of what regulations will be introduced. I beg the Government to study the railway train passenger service in my region, that is, between the City of Quebec and the City of Moncton, via Edmundston. I am not asking the Canadian National Railways to add more trains, but to change the route of some trains in order to give transportation service to Canadian citizens who are entitled to railway transportation but who are not getting it now.

The Throne Speech has completely bypassed the question of a national flag. Again, what a change of attitude, when not so long ago the Prime Minister of the day said at a political rally: "Why not two flags?" It sounded so easy, it seemed to please so few, but surely now he should think not of two but at least one flag.

The Speech from the Throne mentioned a new Minister of Rural Development. Here, again, what a departure from the last federal election Liberal platform promises, whereby two Ministers of Agriculture were to be appointed, one for the east and one for