

The Address—Mr. Meunier

That issue was linked with religious considerations instead of being discussed from the point of view of diplomatic relations and good will.

Another issue our Conservative colleagues from Quebec should not forget to mention to the people is that of the Canadian contribution to underdeveloped countries under the Colombo plan.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, we find in the speech from the throne the following sentence:

You will also be asked to appropriate funds to maintain Canada's external aid program.

In the 1957 and 1958 elections, they made capital out of that issue. Under the guidance of their grand master at the time, the leader of the Union Nationale, they relied on the slogan that "Duplessis was giving to his province and the Liberals to foreigners".

They spread all sorts of slanders. Again with emotion in their voices, the Conservatives from Quebec contended that the Liberals were giving everything to foreign countries while the population of Quebec was overburdened with taxes, and that with that money it would be possible to carry out several projects in Canada. But they were omitting to give the actual reason for this assistance to underdeveloped countries, which is to help these people to overcome poverty and to prevent them from being the victims of communist philosophy.

The people must be told that this government has maintained the policy of the previous Liberal administration, that it has increased its contributions from \$35 million to \$50 million and that in addition it is giving assistance to the West Indies and Ghana.

Another thing I would like to recall to my Conservative colleagues from Quebec is that they should not repudiate the friendly and brotherly relations they had with the Union Nationale government in order to be elected in 1958.

Now that the Union Nationale party has gone into the valley of humiliation, everyone denies having had any relations with it.

However we know that in 1958 the organization of the Union Nationale was in attendance on the Conservative party and that money was not lacking.

I shall not take time to speak of letters of thanks or kisses of friendship exchanged during that election campaign, because they are facts of common knowledge to the people of Quebec.

However, for pity's sake, my Conservative colleagues from Quebec do not disown what you have worshipped.

[Mr. Meunier.]

We would be surprised, if each one of the Conservative members from Quebec were questioned, to learn where the funds they used to be elected came from.

The generous hand of Hon. Gerald Martineau was very helpful to them. And the purveyors of the Union Nationale government were well thought of and thanked for their generosity. I can tell the Quebec Conservatives that I know what I am talking about and that if they would rather forget those things, we shall not fail to remind them and to set the record straight.

Once again, gentlemen, be logical and frank. Don't burn down what you have worshipped.

Before concluding my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not mention the kind of circus meeting the Conservatives organized in Montreal, especially and mainly in St. Denis constituency on the 30th of November last.

The meeting was for the purpose of choosing the Conservative candidate who, according to certain newspapers, had not come or, having come, half-opened the door and seeing that the attendance was poor, did not enter.

Listening to a certain speaker at that meeting, Mr. Speaker, one would have thought that it was the continuation of the Union Nationale campaign.

We know that the provincial constituency of Laurier is included in the federal constituency of St. Denis.

Judging from an earlier speech by an hon. member, we would think the Union Nationale was still campaigning.

True, there were not very many people present, although the meeting had been publicized a great deal. However, I believe more respect should have been shown for the ears of the listeners.

As a matter of fact, at that particular meeting, the member for St. Jacques (Mr. Campeau) was rather vulgar, as pointed out by *La Presse* last December 1. I quote:

So far as Mr. Campeau is concerned, here are some noble expressions he used in connection with the Liberals: Liberal yoke, Liberal dirt, political scavengers, red cancer, organized gangsters, advocates of rottenness, downgraders of French Canadians, etc.

Judging from the tone of the speech, we certainly recognize the Union Nationale, now disowned by the Conservatives. However, I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the Union Nationale era is over in Quebec and that we, in the Liberal party, do not propose to imitate Tory speakers in that connection, using vulgar expressions like the member for St. Jacques