

journalist friend of mine, who made a case for the fact that the people of Canada want to be governed. Not only do they want to be governed but they expect to be governed. The words of Sir Francis Bacon have survived many governments and many parliaments, and they are:

When discords and quarrels and factions are carried openly and audaciously, it is a sign that the reverence of government is lost.

Here is the key reason why we have lost the respect of the people who have elected us to do a job which they still expect us to do.

I think it was unfortunate today that the Prime Minister, or at least some members of his cabinet, did not see fit to let the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) put on record what was already public knowledge—the words that were first spoken before the inquiry by the commissioner of the R.C.M.P. That is another item that will have to be marked down as an error. Though I regard it as such, I must respect the Prime Minister's statement and what he outlined to be his reasons for his actions regarding the file summary which was given to him by the R.C.M.P. commissioner and which, as he explained, was filed away by the chairman of the security committee in the Privy Council.

Though we realize the conditions which existed in November, 1964, I think we can say it was to the credit of the Prime Minister that he called in the Leader of the Opposition and explained the situation to him in February, 1965. If there were any doubt about the motives of the Prime Minister, this is corroboration for what he said today, because it should be obvious that he was trying to do what he thought would be the right thing. To impute selfish motives to him in this, is to cast a slur on all members of parliament and to say that all members are here for selfish reasons.

On the strength of the statement of the Prime Minister today and the events of November and December, 1964, we in the Social Credit party are compelled to take a position where we say that the subject matter of the amendment moved by the hon. member for Royal is not relevant to the situation that is before us, and therefore we cannot support it on that basis.

I would just say this in closing, Mr. Speaker, that this does not take away—

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Hypocrisy rampant.

*Morality in Government*

**Mr. Thompson:** Would hon. members please give me a little of the respect that they get from us when they speak?

**Mr. Ricard:** You don't deserve it.

**Mr. Thompson:** Our action on this vote tonight does not take away one iota from the principle that is enunciated and stated in the amendment for certainly, if the Prime Minister had not explained his position today, it would have weakened the very warp and woof of this institution.

● (8:50 p.m.)

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Red Deer.

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for bringing some of the hon. Conservative members out of their dishonourable noise making. This outlines our position, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Trois-Rivières.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. J.-A. Mongrain (Trois-Rivières):** Mr. Speaker, my remarks will, of necessity, be brief for two obvious reasons: First, only a few minutes remain and second, it seems that all that needed to be said in this debate has been said eloquently.

This afternoon, when we, the independents, claimed the right to express our views for a few minutes, I heard someone on the opposition side say:

[*English*]

You will vote Liberal anyway.

[*Translation*]

This worthy colleague felt, as I did, that his chief had not succeeded in bringing me around to his point of view.

I have not always voted with the Liberals, I am not committed to vote with them, but in the circumstances, I have listened to all that has been said on both sides of the house. Some things struck me as an independent member, for instance when someone said that it could not be imagined that the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) could have strayed from the truth. It should, however, be said about him that he is an honourable man since, this very afternoon, he staked his honour.