

*Abandonment of Defence Projects*

have to be recalled. And to what end? Simply to establish that the Canadian people have been fooled either by one political party or the other. In fact, the people of Quebec did not want nuclear arms and today they find them in their own back yard.

In that respect, I wish to quote words spoken in 1959 by the then prime minister. At that time, the present Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) stated: Those nuclear arms are not fully effective unless they are equipped with nuclear warheads.

And at the same time, the present Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson), who could clearly hear the echo of the Voice of Women, and the present Secretary of State (Mr. Pickersgill), who was writing a book on the philosophy of the Liberal party, both stated:

We do not need nuclear arms in Canada. It is better to be a great power working for defence and peace than a small atomic power.

When a by-election was held in my riding in 1960—I apologize for referring to my riding when I should be speaking on behalf of my party—the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Chevrier) ranged all over my constituency. During a meeting held in the Mont Laurier parish hall, where I was seated in the first row, the Minister of Justice told the people: Do not vote for the evil Conservatives who want to establish a Bomarc base in La Macaza, because this will kill your wives and children. Do not vote for the evil Conservatives.

Do you know what happened? Well, the people of the riding of Labelle did not vote for the evil Conservatives. They elected the Liberal candidate.

Yet at that very moment, the poor little Conservative candidate was working himself up into a frenzy, expounding lofty principles. As a matter of fact, he was saying: If you want peace, prepare for war.

What do we hear today? We are told: We must meet our commitments, we must join our friends to check the communist bloc.

And the poor little Conservative candidate was saying: This is an economic asset, a huge establishment which will bring prosperity to the riding. But he was defeated while the Conservative party was still in power.

Why was the poor little Conservative candidate defeated? Because throughout the county of Labelle, in 1960, the people said: We do not want any nuclear weapons.

The voters of the riding of Labelle did the same thing again in 1961: We are against nuclear weapons, let us vote for the winner of the Nobel prize for peace, let us vote Liberal.

[Mr. Girouard.]

But suddenly in 1962, the same Liberal candidate who had been elected in spite of the Conservative landslide was defeated. Why? In fact everybody wonders why. Well, the answer is quite simple as far as my constituents are concerned. The leader of the Liberal party had become a little more deaf, he no longer heard the Voice of Women, probably his wife's to begin with.

In 1963, the present Minister of National Defence (Mr. Hellyer) completely reversed his policy. In fact, I consulted *Hansard* from 1959 to 1962 and I could not find anything worse. There were only the words of a promoter of peace, of a politician against nuclear weapons.

But during the election campaign they began saying: We have to live up to our commitments. Our country has to do its share in the field of nuclear weapons.

And then we noted that the Liberal candidate in Labelle had been defeated by the Social Creditor who had only made one promise.

I actually stated everywhere in my constituency during the election campaign: "I am going to Ottawa, I will not accomplish any miracle, but I promise you that I will vote against nuclear weapons".

Furthermore, in La Macaza, a Bomarc missile base, as I have already said in this house and I repeat it, because, in my opinion, it is significant, the Social Credit candidate obtained a majority. Why? Because the voters of Labelle county are intelligent enough to know when a candidate comes and tells them: "Vote Grit", that he wants them to vote Grit, and that if they are told: "Vote Tory", the candidate wants them to vote Tory. As for me, I travelled through my riding of Labelle telling my electors that I would vote against nuclear arms. Well, Mr. Speaker, I was elected because of that and, today, I will respect my mandate precisely for that reason.

Mr. Speaker, why does the hon. member for Villeneuve submit his subamendment today, saying that he blames the Quebec Liberal members for their subservience.

Much to my regret, I must recognize that Voltaire himself had his moments of truth, and I must admit that the member for Lapointe was right this morning. I must admit that if the member for Lapointe never says what he thinks, he always thinks what he says. And when he stated that the Liberal members had been subservient, I believe he was right.

This action is outrageous because we wonder if, in all this, some political parties have not been playing small politics.