

The Address—Mr. Low

by stories that have been coming to me from our great sister democracy to the south about the manner in which individual freedom of thought and speech in that country have been crushed. Only a day or two ago, last Friday or Saturday, to be exact, I read in the *New York Times* a story to the effect that already books that have been in our hands for years and years are being banned. For example, in the city of Indianapolis, the Republican member of Indiana's textbook commission said that the story of Robin Hood and all information about the Quaker religion should be removed from schoolbooks because they tended to support communism. He went on to say:

There is a communist directive in education now to stress the story of Robin Hood . . . They want to stress it because he robbed the rich and gave it to the poor. That's the communist line.

The Republican representative on the same committee said:

Quakers don't believe in fighting wars.

Nor do other Christians, may I add. Sometimes we have to fight them, but we do not believe in fighting wars.

All the men they can get to believe that they don't need to go to war, the better off the communists are. It's the same as their crusade for peace—everybody lay down his arms and they'll take over.

So, ban the Quakers.

It reminds me of, and I will conclude with, this little story which I heard the other day. It was told by that teller of good stories in my own province—and they are usually quite apropos—the present premier, Hon. T. C. Douglas. He was speaking with me in Saskatoon the other day and to illustrate what is happening in the United States he told this story. The other day a jack rabbit came running across the United States boundary up into Canada. When it got a little way up into Saskatchewan it was stopped by a group of other animals and jack rabbits who said, "Say, what's your hurry?" "Oh," said the jack rabbit, "did you not hear the news? The order has gone out today to shoot all the camels in the United States." "Well," said his fellow jack rabbits, "you are not a camel." "No," he said, "but how on earth would I prove that to Senator McCarthy?"

Mr. Solon E. Low (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, before I begin the remarks which I wish to make about the various matters that are contained in His Excellency's address there are some very pleasant tasks that I would like to perform.

In the first place, I should like to join with the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Drew)

in congratulating the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) on the very great win he and his party were able to make in the recent elections, and upon having achieved once more the position of Prime Minister in this country. Although he did win, and with a big majority, I can say quite safely for all my colleagues in this house that we bear toward the Prime Minister nothing but good will. We extend to him our felicitations and hopes that the years will be kind to him; and I give him the promise that when he brings into this house measures that are in the best interests of this country he will get my support.

Another thing I should like to do at this time is express my sincere congratulations to the mover and seconder of the address in reply. I was keenly interested in the speeches made by those young men. I thought they were excellent addresses, and I believe that the bursts of applause with which those speeches were greeted at various stages were well earned. We shall look for great things from those young men in the years to come.

I should also like to join with others in expressing welcome to the four lady members who have been elected to this house. I am not going to say too much on that because I have heard men talk themselves into trouble over such things. I am certain, however, that those hon. members will be heard from in this house, undoubtedly to very good effect.

Canada was greatly privileged and honoured to have the President of the United States in this country on a visit during the last two days of the past week. We in Canada's parliament were, I believe, signally honoured in having the President address us in this chamber. I thought his speech was straight to the point, truly complimentary of our country and its people, and reassuring in these dangerous days. Canada is fortunate in having friends like President Eisenhower and warmhearted, peace-loving, friendly people like our neighbours just across the border to the south. I believe the United States is especially fortunate at this time in having a president in whom the spiritual, mental, moral, physical and emotional elements are so well balanced. To my mind, a feature of the address of the President on Saturday was the magnificent interpolation in which this remarkably humble but great man reminded us of the necessity of developing a strong faith as the surest way of finding our way through the dark fears and confusions of this time and the times ahead. I feel that I was especially privileged in being able to hear the President in this chamber.