

Tributes to Mr. Trudeau

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deans: However, I think the Prime Minister will be remembered for his burning commitment to a Quebec within Canada, a Quebec which was understood by the rest of Canada, and a Quebec which understood the aspirations of the rest of Canada. I think he will be remembered for the fact that he was prepared to fight to achieve that vision by going into Quebec and to the rest of Canada to place, quite clearly and unequivocally, his views before the people who must, out of necessity, make the decisions on what this country is going to be. To this point, the measure of success of that goal is still difficult to be judged but, if one can judge it, it can be done on the basis that Canada is still together. Given the events of the recent past, that in itself is an accomplishment.

I think the Prime Minister would agree with us that the issue of federalism remains. Perhaps the focus has changed somewhat from the time when he first established where the country was going, but maybe he leaves us all a challenge, not only those of us in politics but those of us outside of politics, with regard to what our country will be a year or two from now. Will we be able to meet the aspirations of the various regions of the country? Will we be able to come to grips with the challenges and the solutions to the challenges of those who reside in the West who feel that they are not understood, of those who reside in the Maritimes who feel they are not understood, or of the native peoples of Canada who struggle continually for a place constitutionally guaranteed? Will we be able to establish a place within our country for the northerners of Canada who want to participate fully? That is the challenge that we must take up, along with the ongoing challenge of how Quebec and francophone or anglophone Quebecers fit within the greater future of the country.

It is always difficult to find appropriate words, but, as an aside, I may say I looked through the newspapers, and there are a couple of jobs available. I noticed them and I thought they were appropriate. There is one job advertisement here with the title "Super Salesperson". It states that a national manufacturer of established automotive and industrial product lines requires a sales person with five years' minimum experience. This is the interesting point, "travel 60 per cent of the time—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deans:—all expenses paid. Bilingualism an asset". The one problem may be the Toronto headquarters, but we may be able to work that out. With the pension, I think the \$65,000 might be suitable.

There is another job that I thought looked appealing, perhaps, and had a similar resumé requirement. It is at the King Saud University in Saudi Arabia. It provides free return air tickets annually. There is furnished accommodation. When you leave public housing, you will be able to go there. There is a monthly transport allowance, a relocation allowance, and then an end of service gratuity so that, 16 years from now, perhaps you can retire again.

We wish the Prime Minister well. We hope that his retirement is all that he would want it to be, and that he looks back with a sense of accomplishment and pride to the things he was able to do for the country that I undoubtedly know he loves. Bon voyage!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, as I was saying on November 27, 1979, before I was so rudely interrupted—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):—I rise very briefly to salute the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) as a formidable adversary, and as a man of extraordinary personal force, whose mark upon the country will exceed that of most of the great leaders of the nation.

He and I have disagreed—indeed we have disagreed more vigorously since I last bade him farewell than we had before that—but despite those disagreements I cannot overlook, as can no one in the House or the country, the extraordinary personal qualities of the man.

I do not want to go on at great length, but I admire particularly that he is a man who, despite the natural constraints of leadership and public life, was prepared to take great risks on behalf of views he held deeply, and was able to use his remarkable talents to enlist so many others in his cause.

I have never pretended to agree with his fundamental vision of the country, but I certainly have admired his ability not only to pursue that vision but to persuade so many that he was correct, and to enlist so many in his cause. The Right Hon. Member for Mount Royal has had an extraordinary and distinguished career in this country and in the House.

• (1420)

I am pleased to see him gone or going again, and I wish him most sincerely—

[*Translation*]

And I must do so in the second official language, since I believe that without him, without Pierre Elliott Trudeau, the status of French-speaking Canadians would not be what it is today. In this respect at least, he has changed our country.

[*English*]

It is a much better country for his Prime Ministry, in that regard at least and I salute him for it. I wish him success and satisfaction in whatever career he chooses ahead.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I thought it might be appropriate to say a few words on this historic occasion, a momentous occasion certainly for the Liberal Party and for those of us who have worked so closely