

The Address—Mr. Dupuis

for Chambly-Rouville (Mr. Johnson), informed the gathering that unfortunately the Prime Minister had been held up in Ottawa, at the airport, because of bad weather.

You know, Mr. Speaker, ever since morning the weather had been bad. It was cold and it was raining.

Then, all the airports had advised their passengers that no airplane would take off that day. But the premier of Quebec, who had appointments in Montreal, seeing that the planes could not take off, took a car to get to Montreal at half past twelve, the same day, whereas the Prime Minister of Canada, who is not aware of what goes on at the transport department, waited until five, or five-thirty, to get to the airport in Ottawa and there, accompanied by two of his dear ministers from Quebec, he learned that the plane could not take off and that unfortunately he could not get to St. Jean. Can you picture that, Mr. Speaker, three toads caught in the ice, unable to take off.

During that time, the Conservatives were waiting at the Paul Beaulieu school, where the Prime Minister called them from Ottawa, to tell them this:

Thanks to the numerous representations made by the Conservative members in favour of the Richelieu seaway project, the present government has decided to entrust an international joint commission with the task of studying the possibility of implementing that project.

Yet, when the Prime Minister said: "thanks to the representations of the Conservative members", he was not telling the truth and he knew it. Those who have intervened in this house for the deepening of the Richelieu are the hon. members for Richelieu-Vercheres, Laurier and myself. If you refer to the official reports, Mr. Speaker, you will find that 35 interventions in favour of the deepening of the Richelieu were made by the opposition members for the constituencies I have just mentioned, while on the other side of the house, we heard the famous speech—burial or cold shower speech that the transport minister made in Montreal on December 7, 1960, before the chambers of commerce, who were calling for the deepening of the Richelieu.

Mr. Speaker, I will give the second part of my speech when we come back this afternoon.

(Text):

At one o'clock the house took recess.

[Mr. Dupuis.]

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Winch: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that there is such terrific interest in the United States astronaut who is now on his way back down to earth, could I ask for the unanimous consent of the house in requesting that all rules be suspended and the house recess for half an hour?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: If there is unanimous consent to the motion of the hon. member for Vancouver East the sitting may be suspended to resume at the call of the Chair. Agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Then I do now leave the chair.

SITTING SUSPENDED

At 2.40 p.m. the sitting of the house was suspended during pleasure.

SITTING RESUMED

The house resumed at 3 p.m.

(Translation):

Mr. Dupuis: Mr. Speaker, my first words will be words of appreciation to you, on behalf of this house, for having kindly adjourned proceedings for a few minutes, so that all hon. members gathered in the hall might watch the extraordinary feat just accomplished by that 40-year old hero of the U.S.A., Colonel John Glenn, Jr.

Colonel John Glenn, Jr., has just gained the right to the whole world's greatest admiration.

In every field the United States has great renown. This has now been confirmed in the scientific field. The United States could not lag behind. This scientific feat will considerably increase the confidence of the free world in our southern neighbours. I trust, Mr. Speaker, that their scientific achievement will serve peaceful aims, because we are well aware of the mentality of our neighbours, and we know that they will be able to improve that scientific development, for the sole welfare of all the peoples of the world and not for their destruction.

On behalf of all my colleagues and of all the members in this house, I tender to the President of the United States my most sincere congratulations. I can assure him that the name of the United States now shines brighter than ever on the international horizon.

Hon. Noel Dorion (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, for once I agree with the hon. member who has just resumed his seat and I