

*The Address—Mr. St. Laurent*

receive, full and accurate knowledge of every essential fact that the government is able to obtain through its large and highly-trained civil service.

It is because of my confidence in what can be done to meet the tests that lie ahead if we really assert the full supremacy of parliament, and because of my confidence in what can be done by a free parliamentary system, that I present to this house the following amendment. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon):

That the following words be added to the said address:

"We respectfully submit to Your Excellency that Your Excellency's advisers have:

(1) failed to take adequate measures to preserve and expand markets for Canada's surplus products of farm, forest, sea and mine, and to deal with the problems of increasing unemployment and reduced income to Canadian farmers and other producers; and

(2) failed to take steps to inaugurate a national contributory system of old age pensions without a means test; and

(3) deliberately violated a law of this parliament by illegally suppressing the report of the commissioner under the Combines Investigation Act on the flour milling industry for ten months, including the period of the recent general election campaign, and denied to parliament information essential to the performance of its duty and the maintenance of responsible government; and

(4) failed to take adequate measures to curb espionage and other harmful activities of communists in Canada.

For these and other reasons we respectfully submit that Your Excellency's advisers are not entitled to the confidence of this house."

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** It is indeed a pleasure, Mr. Speaker, for me to join with the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew) in extending the usual congratulations to the hon. members who moved and seconded the address in reply to the speech from the throne. The hon. member for Kindersley (Mr. Larson) and the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Dumas) are among the younger and newer members of this house, having come into parliament for the first time at the last general election. For this reason, if for no other, we as their colleagues are proud of the way in which they addressed the house. I think Kindersley and Villeneuve may also be proud of the manner in which they are represented here. The speeches made by the mover and the seconder reflect credit upon themselves, upon those who sent them here, and upon this parliament itself. The hon. member for Kindersley made a speech which, I am sure, we all felt deserved our congratulations and which was highly gratifying to us in its demonstration of the forensic ability he has brought to this parliament. He is one of the youngest members of the house, and has farmed in Saskatchewan since his college days, with the exception of

four years when he was a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, where he served with great distinction. He was decorated for that service. I think it is safe to say that the hon. member has a promising career before him.

The hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Dumas) spoke in both French and English. Those of us who were able to follow him in both languages heard, I think it is fair to say, an address of high merit. It was something that we expected from the hon. member, and we were not disappointed. The last election was not the first time that the hon. member had been elected to public office. He had established for himself a reputation in municipal affairs as manager, alderman and then mayor of the town of Malartic. The hon. member is a qualified land surveyor and forestry engineer, and I am sure that his professional knowledge and experience will be of value to us in the consideration of many of the problems with which we shall have to deal. The electors of Villeneuve can feel that they have made a happy choice in the selection of their representative in this parliament.

Of both I think it is fair to say that no finer introduction could have been made to the consideration and discussion of the questions with which we shall have to deal during this session than the utterances of these hon. members who respectively moved and seconded the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I repeat, I am very happy to extend to them sincere congratulations.

I think I should also extend congratulations to the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew), not of course upon the assertions contained in his motion of amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne, nor upon the sentiments in the last paragraph of his amendment, but upon the ingenuity of some of the arguments submitted to us here today, upon the expression of his confidence, which I share, in the great future of this country, and in the abundance and varied nature of the resources with which it is blessed. Perhaps I might also offer congratulations to the leader of the opposition on, shall I say, the realism of his followers—perhaps the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggan (Mr. Coldwell) and the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Low) might call it the optimism of his followers—in providing him with a permanent residence here in Ottawa as leader of his party. The hon. gentleman—

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, I should explain that I understand it will be available for the present Prime Minister.