

subjects, now must have that piece of paper before they can vote.

It is very obvious to me, and apparently a large number of Canadians, that it is not necessary to involve our friends at Westminster. We could and should do the job ourselves. The Prime Minister made it very clear in his statement of October 2, in his Regina speech of October 29, and at many other times and places, that he cannot achieve an agreement with the premiers of the provinces of Canada. I wonder perhaps if it is not possible that the fault is not all with the premiers. Let me review for a moment just who those ten men are.

The Premier of Quebec, a dynamic and controversial public figure in modern Quebec, was a war correspondent in battle torn Europe. The Hon. René Lévesque was one of the first western journalists to enter a concentration camp after the war. In political life he was, in part, responsible for Quebec Hydro, but he left the Liberal Party to become the leader of the Parti Québécois and a separatist government. He has no support for his actions in this House, but one wonders about the strain imposed by a former colleague on him, the present Prime Minister, perhaps causing such actions. It is interesting to note that another colleague, the Liberal leader of the opposition in Quebec disagrees just as fervently with the Prime Minister.

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Premier William Bennett of British Columbia knows the world of family business, having operated his own furniture and retail appliance store in the interior of the province for many years. Could it be that the reason they cannot agree is that the Prime Minister has absolutely no knowledge of the working of private business and, frankly, has never had any interest in it?

The controversial Mr. Peter Lougheed, premier of the province of Alberta, has played football and climbed mountains and done those athletic things that the Prime Minister seems to revel in. In addition, he has a Master of Business Administration degree. Would that our present Prime Minister had any knowledge of administering a business! Perhaps we would not be in the trouble we are in today if he did.

Premier Allan Blakeney is an interesting comparison, a highly intelligent individual, as is the Prime Minister, a Rhodes Scholar and one who has socialized or nationalized, industry, whichever you prefer, in the province of Saskatchewan, just as the Prime Minister intends to nationalize the oil industry and perhaps others in Canada.

**An hon. Member:** What about PWA?

**Mr. Ellis:** Surely they should have much in common, yet Premier Blakeney cannot abide the plans of the Prime Minister. Not only has he withdrawn his support for the proposal but so have the federal Members of Parliament from this province.

Premier William Davis, one of the oldest in terms of length of service to his province, has agreed to support the package after receiving certain concessions from the Prime Minister.

### *The Constitution*

**Mr. Beatty:** Order, order. Show some courtesy.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Ellis) has the floor.

**Mr. Ellis:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Their heckling does not bother me. It shows, as it did to others in this House, the respect they have for the Constitution.

I was saying, Mr. Speaker, that Premier Davis is philosophically opposed to many of the policies of the Prime Minister. Let me make the point here that Mr. Davis has spoken out strongly about entrenching the monarchy and those rights of which I spoke a moment ago. His support is therefore very important to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Hatfield, another Conservative premier, has also agreed to support the Prime Minister's package. Again philosophically opposed to the Prime Minister in many areas, he has seen fit to support his proposals without some of the concessions gained by Mr. Davis.

Premier Brian Peckford of Newfoundland, a former school teacher, some would say a brash young man, who sincerely and with tremendous spirit fights for the people of Newfoundland, wants for them a better way of life and sees the offshore oil as a way of achieving it. It seems to me that a common sense application of provincial rights, as has been proposed by the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark), would make an ally of this man.

Premier John Buchanan of the province of Nova Scotia is a lawyer and the son of a coal company employee in Sydney. He worked in the blast furnaces of the Sydney Steel Corporation before entering university, and obviously knows what it is like to work, and work hard, for a living. Could one suppose that this is the reason why he and the Prime Minister disagree so strongly on this matter?

Premier Sterling Lyon, who grew up in the rural province of Manitoba, took over that province after the socialists had virtually bankrupted it. He found absolute chaos, and only by the toughest of legislation was he able to start turning the province around. Perhaps it is because he is so tough and so very Canadian that he is the leader of those who oppose the Prime Minister in his Constitution attempts.

Last, but certainly not least, our very, very good friend the Hon. Angus MacLean, Premier of the province of Prince Edward Island. There is so much that one can say about this quiet Canadian who has done so much for his province, both in the federal House and as premier. Perhaps when you understand that he was shot down as a bomber pilot over Germany during the Second World War, that he escaped from imprisonment and walked the length of Europe to escape from the Nazis and return to fight again, when you compare that with the picture of the present Prime Minister driving around Montreal on a motorcycle with his black leather jacket and his helmet with a swastika on it, perhaps you have some idea of the deep philosophical difference—

**An hon. Member:** I thought you had class.