costs but because I think Canada should be maintained at all costs. The intent of the Fathers of Confederation should be in all our hearts, should be what we are here to work for and to which we should honestly seek to contribute.

No superficial symbol, a piece of bunting or anything like that, will contribute to the building of this great nation unless in our hearts we have an understanding, with prejudice removed, and unless we have one aim and objective, whether we are of French extraction, Irish extraction, British extraction, Ukrainian extraction, or whatever. We should have one purpose in mind—to work to build a new nation that will enhance the respect of the individual and increase the freedom he enjoys and has enjoyed in this country under the present flag.

A symbol should firmly express the determination in the hearts of the people of the country to work towards a common objective. I say that this determination is in the hearts of the Canadian people as I have met them, sought conversations with them and discussed amicably the problems we jointly face. It is there now, but it will be destroyed in large measure by the implementation of this resolution which the Prime Minister has so arbitrarily forced on this parliament, and demanded that it deal with on the basis that if it does not accept it there will be an election.

I think I have proven beyond possibility of defence or repudiation from the government side that at no time during the campaigns of 1962 and 1963 did the Liberal party offer, in a manner that would impress Canadians in all parts of Canada, a platform that contained this great plank of this new flag. There were other things it did offer in all parts of Canada that all Canadians understood, and though the Liberal party did not receive the majority of votes or return to office with a majority of members, similar proposals were made by other parties whose combined votes indicated the majority of the people supported them.

In particular I remember the Liberal party's undertaking that it would immediately seek to negotiate with the United States a way out of our nuclear commitments, to remove nuclear weapons from Canadian soil and Canadian military operations in every sphere. This was a plank and platform offered to Canadians in every part of the country. It was a plank which was supported by the majority of Canadians. It is a plank the government should be dealing with now in honouring its commitment to the Canadian people.

The Liberal party has been loud in its criticism of other governments and people for commitments it said had been made, but it has never found or produced any evidence in this house that such commitments had been made. I say it is a shame that the government delays carrying out this undertaking to the Canadian people. If there was one single item of priority in the Liberal platform, on which it got votes in the election of 1963, it was this plank and platform to negotiate a way out of the so-called nuclear commitment. However, as revealed in answers given to questions on orders of the day, we know that no negotiations are taking place and that the government is doing nothing about the matter at this time.

On the question of priorities, we have got a flag debate, even though the government has no mandate from the people to proceed with its flag. No selling job was done by the Liberal party to show it would take this action which today has such priority. Now we are going to be bludgeoned into facing a decision on it. You smile over there, but you cannot deny this. I doubt if you ever said to the people in your constituency that you stood for a plank and a platform that would do away with the Canadian red ensign in two years, and replace it with this proposed design.

The hon. member who preceded me referred to remarks made some time ago by a certain writer relative to foreign domination. Well, we have got foreign domination in the acceptance of the United States demand that we arm ourselves with nuclear weapons. I do not understand the hypocrisy and nonsense in this regard. To me the Minister without Portfolio may have spoken the truth, and I think it should be made known to the people of Canada.

I go further and say there can be only one reason for the haste with which the Prime Minister is demanding a final vote on this question of the flag, and that is to use it as a red herring, to try to get the people to forget that the Liberals' 60 days of decision resulted in a further 120 days during which practically all their decisions were repudiated, not by the people of Canada but by the government itself, because it made them in haste and without full consideration of their consequences. I believe time may yet demand some changes in the distinctive Canadian flag we have had for over 75 years. But I be-