

The Address—Mr. Slogan

The same situation obtains with regard to paper. We used to sell much of our paper to the United States, but thanks to the very friendly policy of the Conservatives towards the United States, we lost a part of our U.S. paper market.

Mr. Speaker, the Conservatives are logical people—I do not ask you to applaud, because you will be disappointed if you do—they are a tremendously logical lot!

In the field of trade, for instance—and I said it here myself last year—in the course of the last election campaign, the Conservatives, led by the Prime Minister, kicked the American government—and I hope that this time the *Canadian Press* will not mistranslate words.

What have the Conservatives done in the field of defence? After kicking Americans in the pants, they kissed them on both cheeks. They entrusted to an American citizen the integrated defence of Canada and the United States. I am not criticizing the fact that we have entrusted our integrated defence to General Partridge. I am only blaming the inconsistency of their conduct. In the field of trade, we kick them in the pants and in the field of defence we kiss them on both cheeks. That is a typical example of the tremendous logic of the Conservative government which is governing or perhaps I should say ruling us at this time.

Not only in this field have the Conservatives given us a truly magnificent show of consistency. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, the speeches made in 1957 by the right hon. Prime Minister and by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Pearkes). I note that the latter is now using his interpretation ear-phone. You will recall that the Minister of National Defence promised to cut down the defence appropriation by \$500 million. That department, in his view, was running into staggering expenditures that were not justified. That was his position before the elections. What happened after June 10? There was a conference in London, and my hon. friend the Minister of National Defence attended this conference with the Prime Minister. No sooner had he returned to Ottawa than press reporters, who quite naturally are always on the look-out for news, hastened to query our distinguished Minister of National Defence. He was asked then if he intended to implement the promise that was made of reducing defence ex-

penditures by \$500 million. The minister, who was arriving from London, replied that this was impossible. He excused himself on the grounds that the blame must always be put on the Liberals—that he never had enough information when he sat on this side of the house and that the promise that had been made was due in part—he did not use the word ignorance, but it looked like that—to a lack of information. Consequently, taxes were reduced by \$225 million, instead of the promised \$500 million.

Mr. Speaker, it is by making promises of this kind to the people, and by not implementing them, that one convinces people that politicians are all birds of a feather, whether they are “blue” or “red”, that they are men who say one thing during the election campaign and who act differently once they sit on the government side.

I wanted to direct some remarks to another hon. gentleman but, unfortunately, he is not here at the moment. I refer to the Postmaster General (Mr. Hamilton). Before I became a member of parliament, as I was saying, Mr. Speaker, I used to sit—

(Text):

Mr. Joseph Slogan (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound feeling of humility that I take my seat in the House of Commons. I have hardly thawed out as yet from the deep freeze by-election. I am rising in this great council of Canada for the first time and I should like to extend to you, sir, and to all members in this house the sincere best wishes and greetings of all the people of Springfield. You, sir, execute your duties in that manner of impartiality and restraint that adds dignity to your high office and inspires respect from both sides of this house.

I should also like to express my sincere congratulations to the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Jorgenson); my neighbouring constituency; and to my neighbour in the house, the hon. member for Montmagny-L'Islet (Mr. Fortin). Both of these hon. gentlemen made masterly speeches in moving and seconding the motion for an address in reply to the speech from the throne. I should also like to extend my congratulations to the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas (Mrs. Casselman) and to the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer) on their victories.

I should also like to join with the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Mandziuk), who