

were personal. The only change was that he substituted live Grits for dead Tories: that was the total reform.

I can see the Minister of Justice avidly thinking of the Senate. I cannot hear his judicial words. We now have a new promise. The Prime Minister is giving a sop to the opposition. If any old Tories in the other place die, he will appoint Tories in their place. That is reform. With support amounting to 85 per cent in the Senate, that statement on his part is indicative of the degree of his desire to bring about the change of which he speaks.

● (1450)

Then there is the question of constitutional reform. During the election campaign the Prime Minister spoke critically of the government of Quebec for having brought in Bill 22. I was able to quote him. In my opinion, it was the worst action which could have been taken in relation to national unity. All over Canada the doctrine of bilingualism was accepted. Now, the province of Quebec turns its back on that doctrine and says: It can apply elsewhere but it is not going to apply here.

What should be done? I would have thought a government with courage would have disallowed that legislation as being unconstitutional. Let the Minister of Justice not tell me it is constitutional, because the godfather of constitutionalism in the Senate, Senator Forsey, says it is entirely unconstitutional. So does Frank Scott. Well, the excuse now being given for not disallowing the bill is that the disallowing process is dead.

Mr. Lang: No.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I am glad the Minister of Justice indicates that he does not hold the view to which I have referred, because the statement he made recently was this: as far as the legislation passed respecting oil in Alberta and Saskatchewan is concerned, if necessary it will be disallowed. So disallowance is still a constitutional possibility, or was only a matter of six months ago. Now the Prime Minister tells us he intends to ride the horse of constitutional reform, that he intends to patriate the constitution and make it truly Canadian. Mr. Speaker, every word and line in the British North America Act of 1867 was prepared in Canada by Canadians before it was ever sent to the British parliament for ratification.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Then he says that if he cannot do it by agreement, he will resurrect—he did not use the word “resurrect” because he does not use Biblical expressions—if he could not do it by agreement, he would resurrect the Victoria charter. Sir, the premier of Quebec was wiser than all the other premiers when he refused to accept the Victoria charter while it was up for ratification and acceptance. What would have happened to us in western Canada if it had gone through? I am surprised the premier of Saskatchewan and the premier of Manitoba accepted it.

Mr. Broadbent: Not the present premier.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Oh, no; that is right. The Premier of Saskatchewan, who also exercised quite an influence in the affairs of the NDP, gave it his support.

An hon. Member: Thatcher?

Mr. Lang: No, it was Schreyer.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I was just about to pay a tribute to the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) on

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becoming acting leader, but because of this interruption I shall have to omit doing so.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: There is a section in there which emasculates the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba by providing for a certain population basis affecting the four western provinces. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan our populations are declining. We would be the only two provinces under the Victoria charter to be placed in a secondary position had that proposal gone through. I hope the Prime Minister will not try to bring back that charter.

Something else is to be brought about. Apparently we are not getting enough information in Canada. We are told that the powers of Information Canada will be strengthened so as to provide a mechanism for disseminating the kind of information which is necessary. Well, some of the information which has been disseminated by that body certainly does not come within this ambit. If we can patriate the constitution, well and good; but not until changes can be brought about in the Victoria charter which will meet general agreement.

I shall conclude by dealing with certain recent activities in the field of foreign affairs. We did not get a chance to discuss foreign affairs while the present leader of the House was foreign minister. Foreign affairs during that period were as foreign as the constitution of Timbuktu.

Mr. Sharp: There was more debate during my time than at any other time.

Mr. Diefenbaker: There was none whatsoever, except in the most general way. The other day Mr. Ivan Head let the cat out of the bag and I think the time has come to say to him, “Ivan, ho. Stop. Whoa.” He has no business whatsoever to be enunciating policy. I do not normally mention civil servants, but I cannot forget that Mr. Ivan Head wrote the introduction to a book of speeches by the Prime Minister and pronounced them to be pure poetry. And he had written them himself! What is the situation? The Prime Minister cannot be permitted to get away with the idea that he can deny that Ivan Head expressed himself regarding the new leftward turn in foreign affairs in Canada. I will read a few excerpts. These are from the Canadian Press:

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau is determined to give Canada a strong, new activist role on the left wing of international affairs, Ivan Head, Mr. Trudeau's special foreign affairs adviser, said Wednesday.

With the help of Allan MacEachen as his new external affairs minister, Mr. Trudeau will seek to heighten Canada's world influence by taking a more moralistic approach to world problems.

Do you have to be on the left to be moralistic?

The new emphasis will be on the human problems affecting people wherever they live and on strengthening Canada's ties with Europe, Japan and the developing countries of Asia and Africa.

That is Mr. Head speaking, and Mr. Head knows. He went on to say the Prime Minister will be making many visits abroad. He will be visiting the Swedish Prime Minister who, Mr. Head said, has greatly impressed the right hon. gentleman with his “outspoken left-wing approach to international problems. According to this report, Mr. Head went on to say that the Swedes, with their denunciation of the Viet Nam war and the military revolt in Chile, had