

Abandonment of Defence Projects

We still remember what the hon. members said during the last election campaign. They proclaimed: "Nuclear weapons, no, but work for everybody, yes." This slogan was repeated by representatives of all the political parties in the house, and more particularly by the hon. members of the Liberal party.

These same representatives—again mostly on the Liberal side—have now an unhoped for opportunity to leave once and for all a servile and subservient party.

In the motion, we said:
—subserviently agreeing to the storing of nuclear arms.

Mr. Speaker, I would like, in a few words, to establish that the Liberal party is indeed subservient, obsequious to financial interests; I hope that the Liberal members might then see things more clearly, and vote against the subserviency of their party to big financial interests.

And we notice this subservience within the Liberal party by the acquisition of nuclear arms, even though the people of Quebec do not want them on their territory.

It is to be noted also that the Liberal party dawdles as much as it can in order to maintain all the international sugar trusts.

You have noticed also that since the new session the present government managed, in its subservience to high finance, to impose an 11 per cent sales tax on building materials. This is another example of its subservience to the financial community.

The Liberal government found it possible also to increase the income tax rate by 1 per cent. And the yearly budget deficit will hit a new high.

What about unemployment? It is well known that the province of Quebec has 40 per cent of the total number of unemployed in Canada, that the unemployment situation is not improving and that eastern farmers are constantly flouted by the servile government we have at present—

Mr. Jean Pierre Côté (Longueuil): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Longueuil rises on a point of order.

Mr. Côté (Longueuil): Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, the hon. member for Lapointe is out of order since there is no connection between his remarks and the amendment or the sub-amendment under consideration.

Mr. Gregoire: Mr. Speaker, I feel that my remarks are relevant since the subamendment deals with the servility and the subservience of the Liberal party and that is precisely what I want to prove.

Whether they like it or not, this increases their subservience in the nuclear field.

Mr. Speaker, I was speaking about the lot of the eastern farmers who are scoffed at and whose claims are ignored by the present government.

We also note the servility of the present government in other fields. In fact, it is sufficient to consider the patronage being practised at the present time by the Post Office Department.

[Text]

Mr. Berger: Mr. Speaker, would it be possible for the hon. member from Lapointe to come back to defence and the subamendment, and stop insulting in vulgar terms honest people on this side of the house?

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I ask the hon. member for Lapointe to continue his observations in a more polite manner.

Mr. Gregoire: Mr. Speaker, I admit that the truth hurts, especially when you are not the shepherd, but just one sheep in the herd.

Another evidence of the servility of the Liberal party is the patronage now going on in the Post Office Department; it is claimed to be a good patronage although it is nothing but shameless patronage.

And how about the centralization carried out by this government in every area?

That, Mr. Speaker, is the sad record of a really sad Liberal government over the last six months.

Members of the Liberal party, now that we are unfolding under your eyes the deplorable achievements of your government in less than six months—and believe me, real genius was needed to do so badly in so little time—we are going to read to you once again what the electors in the province of Quebec think of it. This is an editorial published last July 3 in *La Terre de Chez Nous*, a farm newspaper:

The Catholic farmers' union wishes to join with all the voices which in all objectivity and in good faith objected to the acquisition of nuclear arms by our country. The C.F.U. invites the government authorities, the town councillors, the representative groups and all the citizens to take a similar stand.

Mr. Speaker, we want the government to consider these remarks. We heard all social classes demand that our country do not accept the stockpiling of nuclear arms on our territory.

The part we ought to play should favour nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Speaker, the Liberal women of Canada are just now holding a convention in Ottawa, and they must feel embarrassed by the fact that the Liberal party declared itself in favour of acquiring nuclear destructive arms, whereas we know that the mothers of families objected to our acquiring such means of