

want to say that we now have enough problems without trying to buy back the golden horseshoe.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, before saying anything more, I should like to tell my French-Canadian friends that I very sincerely regret not being able to speak their mother tongue more fluently. If some day, one of my children has ever the honour of sitting in this chamber, I hope he, as well as all his colleagues, can discuss the future of our great nation in either one of the official languages and do so with pride.

Approaching with optimism the beginning of a long and fruitful twenty-ninth parliament, I hope I can express myself correctly in both official languages before it is ended.

I must add that one of my brothers teaches French and spends long hours correcting my English.

[English]

You can see the problem I have, Mr. Speaker, when I speak of family; we are a family. It is terribly important, especially under the present conditions of this parliament, that this not be forgotten. We are a great conglomerate of many peoples, especially the two founding groups in this country. We have many personalities. I have a view on some of the internal problems between our founding peoples. My view is optimistic. I believe that both sides are learning at last and meeting each other, no matter from what remote part of Canada we may come. We are starting to compare our different cultures and qualities. There are a few dissenters and they should never be encouraged. I think there are a few who are not capable of realizing the great strength and diversity that this kind of background gives to our nation. The personal maturing power, and I mean this most sincerely, of first, tolerance, and then respect, love and the full enjoyment together of this great nation makes this country greater.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Fleming:** I am convinced that our troubles, our fears and at times the spotty regressiveness, in fact, shows that we are getting there and the sooner the better.

As is traditional in this particular debate, and with Your Honour's indulgence, I want to speak of my constituency. It is enormous in size by population, 140,000. It consists of all races and nationalities. I understand that it is traditional in a maiden speech to discuss the history of one's constituency. I regret that Samuel de Champlain unfortunately travelled approximately 60 miles north-northeast and did not cross through my territory. The Pennsylvania Dutch eventually found their way to my birthplace of Kitchener. William Lyon Mackenzie was busy a little closer on Yonge Street having a few drinks in the tavern with the boys. Unfortunately we had some trouble finding easy access—or the people who lived in York West in that era had some trouble—because they had no means of proper transportation, or proper access. Many years have passed since then, and only in our quarter of metropolitan Toronto do we remain without rapid transit or a transportation system adequate to move us to that part of town should any crisis arise and should the establishment have to be fought. No, sir, we have no great historical monu-

#### *The Address—Mr. Fleming*

ments in York West except, perhaps, for the town of Weston, a small community now engulfed by suburbia but where you can still go on a Sunday afternoon and hear a band concert, where you can still go into a milk store when you are new in the community, as I was a month or two ago, having lately moved into my constituency, and be told, as my wife was told: "You are new around here; it's good to see you". It is this small town spirit which many of us who come to large cities so much miss.

• (1450)

I wish to refer, also, to the question of redistribution when I refer to the area of Weston. While the Commission, I am sure, and the gentlemen on it are doing their very best to organize and readjust so that there may be proper and fair representation for all parts of our great country, I feel that particularly in the division of my area serious damage has been done to the community of Weston, and I plan to present a brief to them on that subject. They have now decided that the leader of the New Democratic Party will pick up—I am sure we could not call it gerrymandering—will pick up an arm about a quarter of a mile wide and five miles long; he would pick up one half of the community of Weston from the CN rail tracks running northwest to the Humber River. This will divide the community. I do not believe there are that many votes involved, and trust some consideration can be given to drawing the southern boundary of the new riding of York-Lawrence straight across so as to include those people again as part of Weston, all of Weston being a full westerly third of that new riding of York-Lawrence.

I also hope, because I believe we must never forget conditions in the communities which began to build up and create the massive urban areas of today, that it would be appropriate for the riding not to be called York-Lawrence, because it is in a portion of York and that particular main thoroughfare goes through it, Lawrence, but to call it Weston-York-Lawrence. I plan to find another occasion on which to talk further on this subject.

Talking about the history of the riding and its make-up, almost 40 per cent of my constituency will now, with redistribution, become Etobicoke North, another new riding in metropolitan Toronto. Although I hate to see this kind of division it will make it much more manageable and allow the people in all sections—because I am divided three ways and then a little,—a chance to have closer communication. With 140,000 people you just cannot get to everyone, learn their problems, draw the correct conclusions and then express them in this chamber. I might say the same for the new riding of York West which will now take route 401 as the southern boundary, with the Humber River on the west, and allow that to be a much more homogenous riding, thereby allowing the member for that riding, in time, to cope more adequately with a smaller population and their problems.

York West and its constituents have tolerated a great deal in the name of technological development and advancement for our men and women. We have Highway 401 cutting our riding in half, to serve the greatest good of the greatest number; we have highway 400 plunging down from the north so that our people can escape to a healthier environment on weekends. We have the Humber River, once sweet and beautiful, running through our riding, now polluted and stagnant. We have many of those ago-