

believing in. It is no use having the same old loyalty for something that is new. What is it that we are now supporting? Is it Ghana, Kenya or Rhodesia? This is not the sort of Commonwealth to which we gave our loyalty and devotion in days gone by, and it is not the sort of Commonwealth we would like it to be.

I should like to have all of these questions asked in this committee, and that is why I think this motion is too general and too ambiguous. While ambiguity is safer than definition, I still think that definition will get us further in the long run.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Cape Breton), for Hon. Mr. Thorvaldson, debate adjourned.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

#### MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Bourque, seconded by Hon. Mr. Aird, for an address in reply thereto.

**Hon. Jean-François Pouliot:** Honourable senators, I intend to be very brief in the remarks I have to make today on the Speech from the Throne. In the first place, I wish to congratulate the mover of this motion (Hon. Mr. Bourque), who is a personal friend of mine. He is a self-made man and he is highly respected in the City of Outremont, in which he lives in the Province of Quebec, and also in Canada at large. He has been the mayor of Outremont for a number of years, and he has represented that riding in the House of Commons. His presence here is an asset for the Senate.

To the seconder of the motion, Senator Aird, I say he is most welcome. What we admire about him is his great humility. He is a young man, but a prominent lawyer. He comes from a well-known family of Toronto. His grandfather did much for the progress of radio in its beginning. He also is an asset to this chamber. He is much younger than my contemporaries and myself, but he is capable and will make great contributions to the debates of this house.

I have known His Honour the Speaker for many years. If some unpleasant remarks have been made about him by those who do not know him, I am sure that if those who made such remarks had been better

acquainted with him they would have spoken very highly of his career in politics.

I remember, sir, when you were the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Public Works, that you took the same care over all problems that were left to you, whether they came from supporters or opponents of the Government. The number of Members of Parliament you have helped is very great.

I must tell you, honourable colleagues, that the Senate is a place where everyone expresses himself or herself freely, and I wonder what would be the use of a debate on a motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne if at times suggestions were not made for the reform and improvement of public business. Naturally, a suggestion for reform is a suggestion for a change, and it is most difficult to have a change in the routine that has existed for a number of years.

At first, in order to be well understood, I must tell you that according to my experience, whenever someone conveys that anything wrong has been done by anyone of his race, he is considered a traitor to his race, and if he does not belong to that race he is considered a cannibal. I do not exaggerate, but it is very difficult to complain about anything wrong that has been done by anyone, for that very reason. I told one of my friends, who is a Jew, that such things do not happen to them because they never criticize any one of their race. Perhaps that is wise. On the other hand, if we want progress we must indicate what is wrong to improve conditions in this country.

Another observation I wish to make is that freedom and liberty and human rights are subjects that are widely discussed by many people who do not seem to know what freedom, liberty, or democracy mean. They do not know what human rights are any more, but they are now so full of it.

I will give an example to show how badly freedom, human rights and democracy are understood in my own province. A young man, a teacher in my province, belonged to a religious order. In his class was shown on both sides of the crucifix two pictures, on one side a picture of Our Lord, and on the other side a picture of Hitler. This happened at La Mennais School in Montreal.

What would any one of you have done if you had been the director of the school? You would have fired him at once. They did not see it that way. In the land of liberty, freedom and human rights, democracy, etc., they decided to have an investigation made, and that investigation is still in progress to