

The Address—Mr. Cullen

such industries as Imperial Oil, Polymer Corporation, Dow, Dupont, Canadian Industries Limited, Ethyl Corporation and many other large oil and chemical industries. But the economic strength of the community does not rest solely on the base provided by heavy industry. Credit must also go to the farmer and to the small businessman who unfortunately receive little, if any, credit in an address such as this.

Some hon. Members: One o'clock.

At one o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Cullen: This morning during my opening comments, Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately interrupted by the clock. I note there are some clock watchers on the other side of the house. However, I now wish to continue my remarks. I had mentioned that Sarnia riding is famous for its oil and chemical industries but I would also like to say that the economic strength of the community does not rest solely on the base provided by heavy industry.

In my area credit must also go to the farmer and to the small businessman who, unfortunately, receive little if any credit in an address such as this. It is easy to cite the larger and more well known industries and ignore the small businessman. Under the liberty provided by a maiden speech I would like to commend Manley's Bookstore; Keelan's, Phippins, Kirks, Lampel and Zierler furniture stores; Pauls T.V.; McKellar Flowers, Doug Keddy Shoes and Walker Brothers stores. In a list of established small businesses in our community it is impossible to name all the thriving small businesses, but by naming just a few I hope to honour them all.

A Liberal member is, of course, concerned with heavy industry and small business alike, and with the conditions of employment and the improvement of same. I submit that this is also the joint responsibility of the employer and the employee. It is the obligation of the numerous unions in our area to see to it that not only are these conditions set but that they are maintained through proper grievance procedures. I believe that working conditions in our area are second to none but I would hope that the labour unions and larger indus-

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tries would work toward their improvement. As a touring campaigner, and prior to that as an ordinary citizen of the community, I have looked into many of the industries and I recognize that there is definitely room for improvement.

I think it is unfortunate that the man in the street all too often takes exception to the chip on the shoulder attitude of labour unions and as a result much of the good work of a labour union is lost because of poor public relations. I am pleased to state that in my area this image is improving steadily. Recently at a Labour day parade a member of the provincial parliament and myself, both of us having been members of labour unions in their early days, expressed the opinion that a Labour day parade should contain not only members of unions but should be a tribute to labour and should be a parade of employer and employee.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, as a new member I wish to make two comments. I think that most new members were caught up in the recent election with a sense of responsibility for our communities and the people who live in them. This is applicable as much to other parties as to mine. I should like the Canadian people to know that we are not down here in Ottawa as retired businessmen. We are down here as working men prepared to do a job. We are also intelligent enough to realize that our contribution must be small at the beginning. But we would hope that by doing a small job well we will be given an opportunity to perform larger tasks at a later date.

Second, and on a more partisan basis, as a member of the Liberal party I am convinced that the government of this country is in capable hands under outstanding leadership. There are too many people today who would say that the Liberal party with its great majority should take the bit in its teeth and press on, but I would remind these people that a horse that takes the bit in its teeth soon loses all sense of responsibility and direction.

We have an obligation to lead. We will lead. We will put our legislation on the order paper and that legislation will be debated as it should be debated. Changes will be made where they should be made, and it will ultimately become the law of the land. It will then be for the people of Canada to speak out in four or five years time and they can be the ultimate judges of whether the legislation has been good or bad for the country. I am proud