

The Address—Mr. Diefenbaker

very interesting to follow the course of events. Only the other day the *Ottawa Journal* said:

With one fourth or more of these now famous days of decision passed, the only thing Mr. Pearson seems to have decided is that we must not expect him to be deciding in so little time.

It has been most interesting. I am not going over these days; the opportunity will come on another occasion to outline them in some detail. But the Liberal party have learned a lot; they have changed a lot. Some of the policies of a few months ago have been altered in these days of decision. Within 20 days the 60 days had become shifty days. It is most interesting to follow the course of events, for in the light of responsibility the promises which were made in 1962 and 1963 have in many cases been found impossible of application. As far as the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Hays) is concerned, some mention was made of him the other day and the question was asked whether he was the senior or the junior minister. Well, during the election campaign an announcement was made by the Prime Minister that there would be a Minister of Agriculture and an Associate Minister of Agriculture. However, in the light of experience, in the light of the search on the part of the Liberal party for biculturalism and bilingualism, these ministers are now to be co-equals and equals. Indeed, as far as the hon. member for Richelieu-Vercheres (Mr. Cardin) is concerned, he would not be in the cabinet at all if the promise made by the Prime Minister had actually been carried into effect that the portfolio should be abolished as one without responsibility. I am pointing out that in the light of experience the responsibilities of office do change the thinking of those who take office.

Now I read in the *Financial Post* of April 27 a statement that those who expect miracles from the new government are bound to be disappointed. The article goes on to say that our basic problems were created neither by the Diefenbaker regime nor by the previous Liberal regimes—so we are both cleared there. They were created, it says, by the exigencies of our history and brought to a head by economic developments in Canada, in the United States and in the whole Atlantic community during the two decades since the war. The article then goes on to deal with a subject about which we have heard much from the Minister of Finance (Mr. Gordon). That hon. gentleman did not regard it as anti-American to advocate over and over again the need to assure control by Canada of her economic destiny. That has been the purport of his argument ever since he had the honour of being the head of a commission. Indeed, it says in this article

to which I have been referring that the problems of manufacture and of United States ownership are the heart of our present difficulties. They determine our potential for economic growth; they limit our capacity for creating new jobs.

I intend to deal with the particular plan the government has in mind—the plan to set up a board whose purpose it will be to interest Canadians in buying Canadian stocks, to take over United States companies and to ensure that the ownership of our resources in Canada shall be guaranteed to Canadians as far as this can be done. Well, with \$23 billions of foreign investment in Canada, if this proposed corporation is to be effective it would mean an addition to Canada's national debt beyond anything one can contemplate today.

What about the speech from the throne? All of us were led to await it in anxious expectation. What a document was going to be produced when that group of brains over there, coupled with other brains, was to bring forth the salvation of Canada, with the assistance of the Secretary of State (Mr. Pickersgill) as general factotum bringing them together. We expected tremendous things. I intend to deal with this speech from the throne, because in every part of Canada there is national disappointment. It is full of platitudes spaced out among economic generalities which indicate that the planners and the bureaucrats know best. Certainly, it is a new world they are going to take us to—one which they have criticized for many years; one in which all-powerful boards will be set up. I shall make reference to that later. All around us will be boards. The Atlantic development board will have \$100 million made available to it. Its membership will be increased from five to eleven. The explanation put forward is that this is being done to strengthen the board. But it is perfectly obvious that the real reason for the increase in numbers is to assure that those whom we appointed to office will thereby be removed. That is the purpose. That is the aim of this alteration to be made in the bill, whenever it may be introduced.

As far as the budget is concerned, we have to wait for that now. Rumour has it that it will be introduced immediately after the speech from the throne. Rumour has it—and it is usually well authenticated—that there is a possibility there will be a baby budget followed by a real budget later. Oh, it is interesting to watch these planners. Certainly planning is necessary. But planning which turns over the government of Canada to any group of men without control, making available to them a sum of money to the extent of \$100 million, is another matter altogether. Unless there is control by parliament we have