

March 12

Nays — Mr. Taylor, Mr. Patterson, Mr. McInerney (St. J.), Mr. McInerney (York), Mr. Brooks, Mr. McCain, Mr. Moore, Mr. Rideout, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Chalmers, Mr. Stairs, Mr. Ames, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Newcomb, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Logan, Mr. McIlveen, Mr. Horton. Total — 19 Nays.

Mr. BISHOP: Defenders of our people!

## Budget Debate

Hon. Mr. DUMONT, resuming the debate on the budget, spoke as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

As I rise to take part in this budget debate I want to state at the outset that I do so with great pride and satisfaction. The lambasting, long-winded diatribe which the Financial Critic delivered here last Thursday served only to make me feel a happier Liberal and a prouder member of this government.

With my two colleagues, Mr. Pat Guerette and Mr. Raymond Doucett, after having been duly elected in last spring's election and, soon after, subjected to a judicial recount, we now appear in this assembly, confirmed and purified! I am pleased to take this first occasion to congratulate my two colleagues in having shared with me the joy of retaining Restigouche County in the right fold.

On this occasion, Sir, I am sure our good people of Restigouche join me in extending a sincere, loyal and respectful tribute of affection and devotion to our Gracious Sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Mr. Speaker, once more it has been our privilege to witness the dignity and grace of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, J. Leonard O'Brien, at the solemn opening of this session. To His Honour and to his gracious lady, I extend my sincere greetings and loyal good wishes. May God keep them in good health and happiness.

To you, Sir, I also wish to extend my personal congratulations and good wishes for the high office which you hold in this assembly. I am sure that in discharging your duties with dignity and distinction, as you do, you will ever be impartial and maintain the decorum that behoves this august chamber.

Although the opposition has seen fit to disregard the speech from the throne, I would like to congratulate the mover, Mr. Claude Savoie, member for Gloucester and the seconder, Mr. John MacCallum, member for Saint John City for the very fine presentations they have made. Having given a good account of themselves they have enhanced the prestige and honored their respective constituencies.

Of course, Sir, on this side of the house, we rejoice over the two new members from Saint John City who have joined our team. They both have been warmly welcomed here, and I extend to them my personal congratulations and good wishes. The Hon. Dan A. Riley, as Chairman of the Hydro Commission, and Mr. John MacCallum will both assist the government in the discharge of its obligations towards our provincial metropolis.

I am sure, Sir, that we have all been grieved by the death of our colleague, Mr. Hugh A. Dysart. On this side of the house the absence of this congenial friend and member has been felt as a personal loss. I join with other members in extending to Mrs. Dysart and her daughter my personal condolences.

I also extend my sympathy to the other families who have sustained great losses and whose departed dear ones had well served in this Legislature. I refer to the late Mr. Robert McAllister, Mr. W. J. Gallant, Mr. Harry C. Greenlaw, Mr. R. Fraser Keay and, more recently, Mr. Isaie Melanson.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to pay tribute to my constituents of Restigouche County. My colleagues, Mr. Pat Guerette and Mr. Raymond Doucett, share with me the honor and the responsibility of representing the good people of this beautiful county, adorned as it is by its world famed Restigouche River, its tributaries, its magnificent valleys and mountains. I want to thank our constituents for the trust and confidence they have shown us in renewing our mandate. I wish to assure them that we will do our utmost to serve their best interests to the limit of our abilities.

I think that on the whole the situation in Restigouche, while not perfect, is gradually improving. We express to the Hon. the Premier our sincere thanks for his efforts in

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

bringing within our boundaries and closer to us the invaluable benefits of new and/or expanding industries.

We thank also the Hon. Minister of Public Works for his efforts in improving our main and rural highways. Of course, I wish he could do more because experience has taught me, especially during the political campaigns, that mud in the spring and dust in the summer were our worst political enemies!

Mr. Speaker, I am now pleased to extend to my colleague, the Hon. Minister of Finance and Industry, my sincere congratulations for his wonderful budget speech of Tuesday of last week. It was wonderful for its concise, sober and objective presentation of the facts. We now know exactly our financial situation in its true perspective.

We know, and everyone in the province knows, what we have done and what are our aims for the future. When we took office in 1960, the needs were great and there was so much to be done. We realized this and we took our responsibilities boldly.

As promised, we cancelled the iniquitous hospital tax-premium, we have consistently increased the social services and have created new departments. We have especially bowed to the needs of our youth. We have substantially increased the university grants. We have built new hospitals, new schools, new highways and new bridges at a pace never exceeded before.

All this has cost considerable sums of money and could not be effected without a heavy drain on the provincial treasury. With fortitude and determination we have, without hesitation, decided to make these large capital expenditures because we have confidence in our resources — both human and material — and we have not feared to invest for the future of the province and its people. And while this is being accomplished no social services have been curtailed. On the contrary, all essential services are maintained and some are even expanded.

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD and Govt. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: We are therefore proud of our achievements and we stand firm and united on this side of the house behind our Minister of Finance and Industry in the

presentation of his budget. With unswerving loyalty and faith, reinforced as we are with the confidence of the people and a clear mandate just recently renewed, we stand united behind our valiant and dynamic Premier, the Hon. Louis J. Robichaud.

Irrespective of the opposition's criticism which, of course, makes for good government, we entertain no fear and we know that the majority of our people would not have us follow any other course in our policies. We are doing for our people what we believe is to their advantage and we shall not be deterred from this objective.

However, Mr. Speaker, in all sincerity and without prejudice to the foregoing, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Financial Critic for his contribution to this assembly on last Thursday. There were some points well taken in his speech and on which we all agree, especially when he gave citations and excerpts from the Byrne Report.

This long protracted discourse, gently delivered with its sarcastic and lampooning traits, found fault with everything and condemned every move and action of this government. Never before had I seen so much virulence in action under the cover of apparently genuine meekness and gentleness!

Mr. PATTERSON: Never was the deficit so high!

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: You didn't understand.

The criticisms were so general and universal, so abusive and extravagant, that the good intentions of the hon. member were soon defeated. By overdoing it, the effect was lost.

Incompetence and irresponsibility were the main qualifying traits with which he branded this government. Paying a new type of tribute to the electorate, the Financial Critic would have our constituents believe that they had chosen a bunch of crackpots and simpletons to form their government and administer their affairs.

Mr. CHALMERS: That's right.

Mr. PATTERSON: You said it!

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: I doubt very much, Sir, if the people of the province will accept this meager and hurtful compliment. Of course, they wouldn't accept such a compliment, and that is why we are here.

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would be expected to report on my department, but with the kind indulgence of the house I would prefer delaying this until my estimates are brought to the attention of the house. I would rather elaborate on bilingualism and biculturalism since this question is of prime actuality in Canada.

However, Sir, before doing so, and as a prelude to the subject, I would wish to comment on the astounding speech Senator Edgar Fournier delivered on Tuesday night last week in Ottawa. I haven't yet read the speech in extenso except for what has been reported in the press.

Senator Fournier, in his unbridled and perverted patriotic mood, saw fit to attack the French Acadians and their daily newspaper, *L'Évangéline*. He brands these friends and compatriots of Moncton as separatists. He denies them the right to speak for the majority of our French-speaking people.

He scorns our daily French paper for its financial difficulties and blames it — to use his own words — for "not being able to survive on its own merit". He blasts — and these are also his words — "There is cause for alarm" because, says he, "this newspaper publishes news and views across the Maritimes which are not the feelings nor the wishes of all French-Canadians of my province."

Senator Fournier adds contempt to the insult when he says, "I know that after my declaration of today, this group will shout scandal. But I am proud of my statement. I am proud of it."

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to chastise the senator more than to say that such a deserter and turncoat deserves only the general opprobrium of his fellow men. Most of us, even our English fellow New Brunswickers, will resent such a statement and will feel ashamed for the senator even though he himself might be immune to the normal feelings of human dignity. Everyone knows what kind of bird is expected to dirty its own nest!

But, Mr. Speaker, let me tell you that for over 30 years I have been a director and for many years president of *L'Évangéline*. I have been for 40 years a member of the As-

sumption Society and at one time its president. I am, since 1936, a chartered member of the Acadian Association of Education.

My heart is still with all these societies and institutions. I have subscribed and paid my good share of money for these worthy undertakings to preserve and improve our French culture. I felt it was my duty to do so, and I am still in sympathy with these organizations.

I have always been friendly with my French compatriots and I have, also, countless English-speaking friends whom I respect and who pay me the same feelings in return. Mr. Speaker, I know our Acadian group of Moncton and I take strong objection to the senator's statement when he brands these Moncton Acadians as separatists. I emphatically vouch that nothing could be further from the truth.

The *Évangéline* of Thursday, March 5, in its rebuttal to the senator's allegations made this statement — the quotation I am about to give is my own English translation of the French text:

"You know very well, Mr. Fournier, that the *Évangéline* and the Acadian National Society are not separatists. Why should you entertain illusions, nightmares, and take them for reality? You are well at the Senate and we are glad for you. The Acadians would perhaps have preferred being represented by somebody else, but politics had its claims and the *Évangéline* has made no objection. If you cannot do better than that to represent us at the Senate and if you have no better means to promote friendly relations between Canadians of French and English expression, for mercy's sake . . . shut it!"

And I hope he does!

Mr. Speaker, from this sorrowful event, let us now turn to a more encouraging realm which will get me closer to my main theme of bilingualism and biculturalism.

Last year, the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition had given us quite an inspiring essay on bilingualism. The hon. member from Rothesay, my genial friend, Mr. John B. M. Baxter, in his maiden speech made his opening remarks in French and he paid a friendly tribute to the Acadians. In my speech, a few days later, I commended and congratu-

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

lated for this the Hon. the Leader and his colleague from Rothesay. Today I have another occasion to throw flowers across to the other side of the house and I do so spontaneously.

Recently, I have been impressed, Sir, by a letter the Hon. the Leader sent to one of our young lady students who had just been awarded a bursary through the good offices of the Department of Youth and Welfare.

The names of these bursary recipients had been published in the newspapers. Forthwith, the Leader of the Opposition or his officials drafted congratulatory letters to the lucky recipients. Although in English, these letters were typed on bilingual stationery, both letter and envelope, with, on each side of the New Brunswick crest, the following: "The Office of the Leader of the Opposition" on one side of the crest and "Le Bureau du Chef de l'Opposition" on the other. The effect was wonderful on the young lady and she told me how pleased she was.

The Minister of Health, fortunately, since 1960 had requested the general adoption of bilingual stationery in all divisions of his department. So, forthwith, I too wrote a congratulatory letter to this young lady and outdid the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition in having the letter typed in French on my bilingual letter paper.

This is what I call civism or good civic manners and made up of so many details, but so important in our public relations. This might be a detail, but for our French-speaking citizens it has some significance and I commend the Hon. the Leader for his thoughtfulness.

Another subject which interests me immensely, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that here in Fredericton and in Saint John the people are refused the availability of the French Radio and TV programs. This in our time and age is almost inconceivable.

I wrote a letter recently to City Cablevision, of which I am a subscriber, inquiring if it would be possible through a relay or satellite to bring us here on our community cable the programs from the CBAF-TV Station of Moncton. I received no acknowledgment.

Of course, I like to follow an English program, but why should Saint John and Fredericton be deprived of the advantages of bilingual radio and TV programs such as we have in Campbellton, Moncton and elsewhere?

The other day, on the occasion of the official opening of the new CBZ Station, I mentioned this to Mr. Alphonse Ouimet, the president of CBC, and he told me that we should ask our members to exert the required pressure on Ottawa to have the French network extended down our way here in Fredericton and Saint John.

I really believe, Sir, that this capital and university city should have insisted long ago on having for its citizens and students this bilingual service. After all, Toronto will soon have its own French Radio Station, and why should we not have the same privilege? So, I respectfully request, Sir, that all members do join the crusade for French Radio and TV programs in Fredericton and Saint John.

Mr. Speaker, as I am about to expound my views on separatism, bilingualism and biculturalism, I would at the outset state that this portion of my speech is nonpolitical. It will reflect my personal views as a private citizen living on friendly terms, I hope, with all citizens of New Brunswick. And these views I hold and share in common with all my French-speaking compatriots here in New Brunswick, regardless of their political affiliation.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I might add that at my age — I will soon be 66 — I have nothing to compromise and little to speculate on. In other words, at this stage of my life, I cannot be prejudiced. I have nothing to hide and, I hope, nothing to fear. I speak here with an open and friendly heart. How could it be otherwise, since most of my future is now behind me!

Speaking at an Acadian convention several years ago, I had this to say — I quote my own English translation from my French text:

"The Acadians, through a slow but progressive process of evolution, by the sheer force of right against the right of force, have finally succeeded, under the aegis of the Assumption Society and the Acadian Association of Education, to gather and unite in a magnifi-

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

cent levy of people. With no intention of giving way we will persevere in our efforts until we obtain totally and permanently those rights to which, as good citizens, under democracy, we are entitled."

Of course, I was referring to the Acadian resurgence which had already been manifest for some decades. No wonder that some 20-odd years later, attending as a guest and taking part in a seminar on "The Separatist Movement in Quebec", held at the University of Windsor last November, I could say this — and I quote the following paragraphs from my Windsor speech:

"While, in our province, we have experienced some nationalistic difficulties and differences, yet, over the years, we have been able to live through them and we do enjoy, in an increasing measure, good mutual feelings. I might say that New Brunswickers have exemplified this, politically, in electing on two successive occasions, with a fairly good majority, a French Acadian Premier.

"This feat itself proves that our French and English-speaking New Brunswickers live together on good friendly terms. Barring some intransigent exceptions — the extremists — we have in New Brunswick a 'modus vivendi' which is most encouraging. It has been brought about by a display of more tolerance on the part of the English-speaking communities having to live and cooperate with an increasing Acadian population which has been patient, steadfast and persevering in their demands for the recognition of their cultural and educational rights.

"With a great deal of satisfaction, I might mention that recently, following the findings and the recommendations of the Deutsch Commission on Higher Education, our government has accepted this report and is now in the process of favoring its deployment.

"Hence, it should be noted that the Acadians have reason to rejoice on the official recognition of the French-speaking University of Moncton."

Quoting Tim Creery of the Ottawa Bureau of the Southam News

Services, the following excerpt was included in that speech:

"Fredericton as provincial capital is also the home of the most successful accommodation under-way in any province of Canada to settle the troubled schools question. The province has simply substituted common sense for the ancient legislation which gave the province an English-oriented system of non-denominational schools."

"And so, with French as a language not yet recognized as an official language in our statutes, the Acadians are exultant over their university. This French-speaking University of Moncton, largely subsidized by the government as its sister University of New Brunswick, will stand as a monument to our faith in biculturalism. By it and with it is recognized the most unrestricted bilingualism in the realm of higher education. Alongside of it and on its campus, as an ineluctable corollary is expected, of course, a French Teachers' College.

"This, in brief, is our situation in New Brunswick which is an evidence of the good measure of friendly relations and tolerance now prevailing and motivating our endeavours in all fields. We New Brunswickers feel that the English and French elements of our population are getting closer together, improving in friendly cooperation our mutual and respective way of life. United and respecting each other's rights, we can join together in promoting our common cause and developing our provincial resources — both human and material — thereby contributing our share in shaping a greater and more united Canada.

"This being said, it will be no surprise to anyone if I state that, while we understand the underlying causes of the separatist movement in Quebec, we New Brunswickers see it develop with dismay and apprehension. As a whole, New Brunswickers are against separatism. If I were to speak specifically for the Acadians, I would say that, if any, very few Acadians would join the movement."

But now, Mr. Speaker, why, on the eve of the Confederation's centennial celebration, should we have

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

this debate over bilingualism and biculturalism? And why should we be witnessing these violent outbursts of separatism and even expressions of disloyalty towards Her Majesty our Sovereign Queen?

Well, Sir, quoting again from my Windsor speech:

"We know that Quebec, for some years now, has weathered through an atmosphere replete with gales of dissatisfaction, anxieties, frustration, which in some quarters have developed into separatism and finally into the F.L.Q. outburst."

Authoritative writers such as Father Richard Ares, editorial director of the French Canadian Jesuit monthly review "Relations" and others feel that this unhappy situation is the result of the Confederation's partial failure. By allowing French Canadians on a lower level than their partners, it made them Canadians of second class.

In fact, experience has shown that from the start Confederation was befouled by a serious fundamental misunderstanding which brewed ever since, until the extremists chose, under cover, to break loose with their violent outburst.

The misunderstanding is a serious one in that the two partners gave two different interpretations to the British North America Act. The British majority held — and many English-speaking Canadians still hold — that Confederation created an English Canada within which a bilingual Quebec would be tolerated. The French Canadians took for granted that Confederation would make Canada a bilingual and bicultural nation and that their language and culture would be protected everywhere and anywhere in Canada.

Of course, one could elaborate extensively on this topic and make pertinent remarks as to the resentful reactions that were experienced by the French Canadians in every province, when the French language and culture were subdued, ostracized and banned officially. These must have been bitter days for those suffering the onslaught. No wonder that Sir John A. MacDonald in his classic outburst against those campaigning to suppress the French language in Eng-

lish-speaking Canada had this to say in the House of Commons in 1890:

"Why, Mr. Speaker, if there is one act of oppression more than another which would come home to a man's breast, it is that he should be deprived of the consolation of hearing and speaking and reading the language that his mother taught him. It is cruel. It is seething the kid in its mother's milk."

Mr. Speaker, assuming that one's love for his culture is akin to one's love for his mother, and in the light of the foregoing, let us look over briefly the situation of our school system here in New Brunswick since 1867 until the present day.

Before 1871, the New Brunswick government recognized French schools as such by granting them subsidies. At the time there were some 250 Acadian French schools in New Brunswick. Following the Confederation in 1867, the Acadians were confident that their French schools and French culture would be respected and maintained. Their hopes were firmly grounded on Sir John A. MacDonald's statement made in Quebec City on March 6, 1865. Sir John said:

"The delegates of all provinces have agreed that the usage of the French language will be one of the principles on which confederation will be founded."

But, alas! this respect of equal partnership of English and French Canadians, on which the federal system was founded, was disregarded here in New Brunswick as soon as 1871 by the passing of the Common Schools Act.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to stir unduly the ashes of the legislators of the day who inflicted on the Acadians such a harsh treatment. No, they were, I hope, in good faith and only anxious to transform the Acadian children into one only brand of English-speaking citizens.

However, for all practical purposes, this meant the disappearance of some 250 Acadian French schools. We all know the unfortunate events that followed: the Acadians protested violently, they appealed to the federal parliament, to the courts and even to the privy council, but all this to no avail. Finally, following the violent Caraquet riot of

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

1875, the government of New Brunswick decided to compromise and relative peace was restored. The same compromise is still prevailing, but has never been sanctioned by law in our statutes.

In the meantime, the Acadians, on their own, erected convents and colleges where, according to their aspirations, they taught French, English and Religion. In 1881, to protect their interests, the Acadians founded their National Assumption Society, now known as the National Acadian Society. Their first college, St. Joseph's College, was founded at Memramcook in 1864, now about to celebrate, this year, its centenary.

These were years of strife and dissatisfaction, not only for the Acadians but also for many English-speaking Canadians expressing their disapproval over this sad state of affairs — and in 1890 Sir John A. MacDonald substantially said this:

"I do not share at all the desire, expressed in some quarters, that by some means, one language should be oppressed or placed on an inferior level to the other . . . We now have a constitution under which all British subjects are perfectly equal, having equal rights as to their language."

Mr. Speaker, I forego all the details of the strife and difficulties that hampered our school system in the ensuing years. I will record, however, the brief presented to the provincial government in 1929 by the National Assumption Society requesting a better deal for the French-speaking pupils.

The brief was well received, but, due to antagonizing pressure groups, it resolved in a Royal Commission to further investigate the problem. In 1932, the report was unanimously approved, but again received the fate of being shelved.

In 1936, the Acadian Society of Education was founded to better organize for the promotion and improvement of our French cultural rights. I was one of the founders and present at its inaugural meeting. From 1937 until now this organization has presented a number of briefs to the provincial government. I have accompanied several of these delegations to the cabinet and we were always cordially greeted and heard, but the results were

very slow coming and only by the piecemeal method!

However, Mr. Speaker, in 1937 the Sacred Heart College organized summer courses for teachers. In 1938, St. Joseph's University did the same to better the qualifications of teachers and improve their knowledge of the French language.

In 1943, at the third convention of the A.A.E. the late Hon. C. H. Blakeney, Minister of Education, admitted without hesitation that the present school system was anti-democratic, antipedagogic and disastrous for the French-speaking pupils in New Brunswick. Indeed, the 1941 census had revealed that New Brunswick was the most illiterate province of Canada, due mainly to the illiteracy of the Acadians.

In 1944, Dr. J. Théodule Lejeune was appointed assistant to the Deputy Minister of Education. The position is now held by Dr. Gérard Degrace.

In 1948, ten years after their inception, the summer courses of St. Joseph's University were officially recognized by the government. Sacred Heart College had to wait some ten more years before they could be likewise officially recognized.

Since that time and on, Sir, great strides have been accomplished, but there still remains much room for improvement. Now, with the University of Moncton and its affiliated colleges substantially subsidized by the provincial government, I am confident, Sir, that the Acadians are now, at long last, entering a new era of prosperity.

However, Sir, in the light of the foregoing, any impartial observer reviewing the situation and assessing it objectively would find that here, as elsewhere in Canada, except for Quebec, this first century of Confederation has been undoubtedly the triumph of the English thesis with the following result:

On the one side, a powerful English Canada with everything at its command to prosper from sea to sea; on the other, an anemic and weak French Canada rubbing along in its poverty and hampered everywhere in its cultural development except in its bilingual reserve of Quebec.

In other words, the impartial observer would have to conclude that under Confederation, here in New Brunswick as elsewhere, the French-

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

speaking citizens haven't fared too well. In fact, Sir, they have not been equal partners but merely second rate citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as for the Acadians, I believe that Mr. Hugh Thorburn strikes a fair note when he writes:

"The acquiescent attitude of the Acadians is typical. They are aware of their growing strength and realize that as their members grew, so must their influence. But they will not take any steps that spur the English-speaking majority to retaliation. They are mild and patient, displaying none of the militancy of their French-Canadian Cousins." — Quoted from Canadian Dualism, by Mason Wade, page 390.

As for Canada's future as a whole, Sir, in view of the critical situation which besets us, I feel that our actual political leaders have envisaged the situation with great realism. The former Prime Minister, the Hon. John Diefenbaker and the actual Prime Minister, the Hon. Lester Pearson, have made important speeches on this matter, which are of high inspiration and thought provoking.

Father Ares has this to say:

"If there is to be a second century of life in common, it is imperative that it opens up with a regime really affording to the two associated cultural communities equal chances and possibilities across Canada and in each province. This is the price to be paid to ensure that there will be a Canada and a Canada with a future." — My translation, Ares, p. 17.

Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Lester Pearson on April 23, 1963 and the Hon. John Diefenbaker on Feb. 4, 1963 both proclaimed that, "The axis of our nation is the partnership of English and French Canadians." If we subscribe to this thesis, then it should logically follow that a fundamental change in the British North America Act is imperative to the effect that the French language be also the official language of all Canada and not only of the province of Quebec.

These are my views on bilingualism and biculturalism. For me it means only, as André Laurendeau puts it, "a friendly coexistence". A-

gain, it means, "Let us be equal and friendly partners" — "Des citoyens à parts égales." Biculturalism or bilingualism never meant that all Canadians should learn French and English, or that French or English should be coercively forced down the throat of any Canadian. Another way to put it would be: Equal chance and equal opportunity to both partners.

Mr. Speaker, as I am about to conclude this exposé, it follows that for us in New Brunswick far-reaching measures are necessary and, in order of priority, I would suggest the following:

1. Official recognition of the French language — tolerance is not enough.

2. Appointment of French-speaking directors responsible for the teacher training and recruiting, curriculum, research, examination and guidance.

3. A separate French normal school on the campus of the University of Moncton, affiliated to it but under the administration of the Department of Education. This French college could provide French-language teachers throughout the Maritimes.

These are the essential requisites that would, if implemented, correct the unfavorable conditions which have hampered the Acadians and have kept them backward and second-rate citizens for the last century.

#### MESSAGE IN FRENCH

Monsieur l'Orateur, je veux maintenant, avec toute la chaleur de mon âme française, saluer mes électeurs du beau comté de Restigouche. Je n'oublie pas que j'ai l'honneur de les représenter ici en cette chambre et je veux encore une fois les remercier de la confiance qu'ils m'ont témoignée.

Ils n'ignorent pas que la vie politique, étant un devoir social qui trouve son fondement dans la charité chrétienne, impose à l'homme publique des renoncements et des difficultés. Heureusement que ces contrariétés sont compensées par la satisfaction qu'on éprouve à remplir son devoir et à servir les siens.

Sans plus, je veux assurer mes électeurs que je fais miens leurs problèmes et leurs difficultés et qu'ils pourront toujours compter sur ma bonne volonté et mon dévouement.

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

Je veux également, avec les mêmes sentiments d'amitié fraternelle, adresser à mes compatriotes de la province mes hommages et mes bons vœux. L'an dernier c'est un message d'espérance que j'adressais à la population acadienne, espérance fondée sur les objectifs que nous dressons en perspective l'Université de Moncton avec ses collèges affiliés. Cette année je suis tout aussi confiant et tout autant optimiste.

Certains des nôtres, cependant, sont impatients et voudraient que nous brûlions les étapes pour rattraper le temps perdu. Je les exhorte à la patience et les supplie d'avoir confiance et de ne pas trop nous décrier!

Pour ma part, j'accepte de bon cœur les petites allusions parfois teintées de malice ou de sarcasme que nous lançent, dans un bon français, nos charmants journalistes! Je suis certain que mes collègues leur portent la même compréhension indulgente. Je veux cependant assurer nos amis que rien ne sert de casser les vitres et que le fait de temporiser ne signifie pas abdication! Ayons confiance et foi dans l'avenir.

M. l'Orateur, je m'en voudrais de ne pas signaler un événement remarquable entre tant d'autres, celui du centenaire, en cette année 1964, du Collège St-Joseph de Memramcook. C'est avec une âme émue et combien sincère que j'adresse à cette vénérable institution mes hommages reconnaissants pour tous les bienfaits dont l'Acadie nouvelle lui est redevable.

Les noms du Père F. X. Lafrance, avec son "petit" séminaire de St-Thomas en 1854, et celui du Père Camille Lefebvre de la Congrégation de Ste-Croix, fondateur du Collège St-Joseph qui prenait la relève du Père Lafrance, en 1864, sont des noms qui doivent à jamais demeurer honorés et bénis dans toute âme acadienne.

M. l'Orateur, personne n'ignore que c'est le collège St-Joseph qui nous a formé nos premiers chefs Acadiens, ces chefs valeureux qui ont préparé et ensemené, au prix de combien de sacrifices, le terrain sur lequel l'Acadie nouvelle a pu croître et se développer. Mes hommages donc à cette vénérable maison, à ces Pères de Ste-Croix, vail-

lants et dévoués éducateurs, qui, au cours d'un siècle, tout en formant des âmes chrétiennes, leur ont, avec tant de générosité, départi le pain de la science.

M. l'Orateur, vous me permettez de saluer également toutes nos autres maisons d'éducation: collèges, couvents et écoles qui, de par la province, sont autant de phares qui inondent l'âme de notre jeunesse acadienne des lumières bienfaites du savoir. A tous nos éducateurs, à quelque degré qu'ils occupent dans l'échelle pédagogique, j'adresse mes respectueux hommages et mes bons vœux.

M. l'Orateur, il convient certes que j'adresse mes félicitations à un Acadien qui au cours de l'année dernière nous a fait grand honneur — et combien qu'il me fait chaud au cœur de voir qu'il est actuellement assiégé en arrière dans la banquettes, et je suis très heureux de profiter de cette occasion pour le saluer.

M. Emery LeBlanc s'est signalé par la publication d'un livre "Les Acadiens" — "Aux Editions de l'Homme". J'avais l'honneur, le 11 novembre 1963, de représenter notre Premier Ministre à Montréal à l'occasion du lancement de son livre. La préface de ce livre, écrite par l'honorable Louis J. Robichaud, fait l'éloge de l'ouvrage et de son auteur. J'y note, et avec combien de satisfaction, le passage suivant:

"Emery LeBlanc aime son pays comme peu de gens en sont capables. Sans bruit, avec modestie, il s'est efforcé de le faire connaître un peu partout."

Je suis donc très heureux de réitérer nos félicitations à notre ami Emery LeBlanc. La parution du livre avec le nom de son auteur mérite d'être consigné dans les rapports synoptiques de cette chambre.

Mais, M. l'Orateur, cet homme qui a si bien servi son pays pendant des années comme rédacteur en chef de l'Évangéline et qui a été l'un des porte-paroles les plus autorisés des Acadiens, se signalait de plus en gagnant le prix Olivar Asselin du journalisme. Pour un tel exploit les Acadiens le félicitent et le remercient.

M. l'Orateur, Emery LeBlanc après s'être illustré dans le journalisme, occupe désormais un nouveau poste aux relations extérieures du Canadien National où il continuera à nous faire honneur.

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

Je désire saluer également le successeur d'Emery LeBlanc. Je veux prendre cette occasion pour féliciter M. Bernard Poirier pour sa promotion et aussi pour la bonne tenue de son journal et je lui fait mes meilleurs vœux.

L'Évangéline, M. l'Orateur, malgré ses difficultés financières, continue toujours à nous bien servir et nul doute que la Providence fera surgir un jour le Mécène qui saura lui assurer la stabilité financière requise. Je lui souhaite de continuer son œuvre avec succès. J'adresse les mêmes vœux aux Journaux "Le Madawaska" et L'Aviron". Tous ces journaux sont des éléments de vie française dont nous ne saurions nous passer. Je leur souhaite succès et prospérité.

Enfin, M. l'Orateur, il convient de signaler la naissance de trois nouveaux Clubs Richelieu dans notre province. Ce sont trois nouveaux chaînons qui s'ajoutent à la chaîne Richelieu. Hommages et félicitations à ces trois Clubs de Frédéricton, Petit Rocher et St-Jean. Je fais des vœux pour qu'ils aient une croissance normale et qu'ils accèdent très tôt à pleine maturité pour le plus grand bien de l'enfance malheureuse.

#### ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Mr. Speaker, with all the warmth of my French soul, I want to extend greetings to the electors of my beautiful county of Restigouche. I don't forget that I have the honor of being their representative here in this assembly and I want to thank them again for the confidence they have entrusted in me.

They are not unaware that political life, being a social duty basically founded on Christian charity, is replete with difficulties and self-denial. Fortunately, these trials are counterbalanced by the satisfaction derived in the fulfilment of one's duty in serving one's people.

However, I want to assure my constituents that I share their problems and difficulties and that they can count on my good will and devotion.

With the same feelings of fraternal friendship, I extend greetings and good wishes to all my compatriots across the province. Last year I extended a message of opti-

mism to the Acadian population, founded on the objectives seen in perspective and centered about Moncton University with its affiliated colleges. This year I am just as confident and optimistic.

Some of our friends, however, are impatient and would wish us to move more hastily to make up for lost time. I exhort them to be patient, I entreat them to have trust and I ask them not to decry us!

As for myself, I accept with good nature the little allusions, at times showing a tint of malice or sarcasm, darted at us in very good French by our charming journalists! I am sure that my colleagues have for them the same feeling of indulgence. However, I want to assure our friends that it is quite useless to break windows and that temporizing does not imply abdication. Let us be confident and let us have faith in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I must point out a remarkable event amongst so many others, that of the centenary, in this year 1964, of St. Joseph's College of Memramcook. With deep sincerity and a moved heart, I extend to this venerable institution my grateful homages for all the favors it has bestowed upon our Acadian population.

The name of Father F. X. Lafrance, with his small seminary of St. Thomas in 1854, and that of Father Camille Lefebvre of the Holy Cross Congregation, founder of St. Joseph's College in 1864, are names which forever must be honored and blessed by every Acadian soul.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that our first Acadian leaders were educated at St. Joseph's College. These valiant leaders are the ones who have prepared the actual Acadian revival and resurgence. My greetings, therefore, to this venerable institution and to the Holy Cross Fathers, valorous and dedicated educators who have, for the last century, trained Christian souls and dispensed to them the bread of science.

Mr. Speaker, you will also allow me to extend greetings to all our other colleges, convents and schools which, all over the province, are as many beacons projecting the light of knowledge over our youth. To all these educators, at whatever level of the pedagogic scale, I pay my respects and extend good wishes.

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

Mr. Speaker, it is most fitting that I extend my congratulations to an Acadian who during the past year has brought us great honor — it certainly does my heart good to see him seated at the back of the chamber today, and I am very happy to greet him.

Mr. Emery LeBlanc has distinguished himself in publishing his book "Les Acadiens". On Nov. 11, 1963 I had the honor to represent our Premier in Montreal on the occasion of the launching of his book. The book is prefaced by the Hon. Louis J. Robichaud lauding the work and its author. In it I note with satisfaction the following:

"Emery LeBlanc loves his native land as only few are able. Quietly and with modesty he has striven to make it known wherever he could."

I am therefore pleased to reiterate our words of congratulation to our friend Emery LeBlanc. The publication of the book, together with the name of its author, deserve to be recorded in the Synoptic Reports of this house.

But, Mr. Speaker, this man who had so well served his country as editor-in-chief of the *Évangéline* for many years, and who was one of the best authorized spokesmen of the Acadians, has also distinguished himself by winning the *Olivar Asselin Award for Journalism*. For this achievement, the Acadians congratulate and thank him.

Mr. Speaker, Emery LeBlanc, after a distinguished career in the press, has now moved to another position and is with the Canadian National as public relations officer. He will continue to do us honor.

I am also pleased to greet here in the press gallery the successor to Mr. LeBlanc. I congratulate Mr. Bernard Poirier on his promotion and on the nice presentation of his paper, and I offer him my best wishes.

Notwithstanding its financial difficulties, *L'Évangéline* is still continuing its good services and there is no doubt that Providence will someday give rise to some *Maecenas* who will assure its financial stability. I do hope it will continue its service with success. I extend similar good wishes to "*Le Madawaska*" and "*L'Aviron*". All these news-

papers are elements of our French life that we cannot afford to do without. May they succeed and prosper.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I should mention the recent founding of three new *Richelieu Clubs* in our province. These are three new links added to the *Richelieu chain*. Greetings and good wishes to these three clubs of *Fredericton*, *Petit Rocher* and *Saint John*. I hope that their growth will be normal and that they will soon attain full maturity for the greater advantage of the underprivileged children.

Mr. Speaker, referring briefly again to the question of bilingualism and biculturalism, I would wish, in closing, to reiterate my good feelings towards my fellow countrymen. I have been sincere, I have spoken with no acrimony and I have no resentment.

If I may be more personal, I would say that I have been very successful in my profession and I have raised and educated seven children — and for all this I am most thankful to the Almighty Benefactor. These children are bilingual except for two who have added either Spanish or Italian to their armamentarium. These two are trilingual, if this is a word — I couldn't find it in the dictionary. Of course, I only had the *Oxford*; I submit it is not enough.

If I mention this, it is not for personal pride nor for boasting, but to point out that to achieve this — since I was a second-rate citizen in *Confederation* and in *New Brunswick*, in the cultural field at least — I had to send my children outside of *Campbellton* to French schools, convents and universities in *Quebec*, and in *New Brunswick* also, but outside of *Campbellton*.

For 15 years, I was a school trustee in *Campbellton* and I knew that this kind of French culture was not available in my own city — granted, conditions are now somewhat improved. But consider, Sir, the amount of money, the thousands of dollars I had to pay to buy the French culture I wanted to impart to my children, and during all that time I was supporting our *Campbellton* schools by paying my school taxes from which I derived only minimal benefits, perhaps some

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 12

three years for each child when they were too young to be sent outside.

And mind you, Sir, I repeat: One's love for his culture is akin to one's love for his mother! How unfortunate, how pitiful, therefore, has been the Acadian's lot in *New Brunswick* over the last century.

But let us hope that better days are ahead. I close with the following citation of Mr. David Walker in his address to the *Women's Press Club*:

"If we are to survive as Canada, if we are to surmount our problems of geography and race and language, if we are to be one Canada at last, then we must have a quality, a character of our own in our own right. We must not be smudged carbon copies of France and Britain and the United States. We can be proud of those connections and profit from them — only fools think that breeding and example do not count — but we must be ourselves."

Yes, Sir, let us be ourselves, real loyal Canadians and equal partners! I don't want this country of ours torn apart. I could never be a separatist because I have only one country, Canada, and I love it too much to see it broken apart. Oh yes, the building of highways and bridges are very important, but how much more the building and protection of a proud and deserving soul such as the one of French Canada.

Thank you.

Mr. BROOKS, continuing the debate, said:

Mr. Speaker:

It is with pleasure that I again arise to take part in this budget debate.

I wish to congratulate you, Sir, on the able and excellent manner in which you carry out the duties of your office. You are the presiding officer of this assembly, and sometimes in the heat of debate your position is not an easy one. You fill it with distinction.

I join with all members in extending sympathy to the bereaved families of Mr. Hugh Dysart, M.L.A., and the late Mr. Gallant, Mr. Greenlaw, Mr. Fraser Keay, Mr. Robert McAllister and Mr. Isaie Melanson.

Mr. Dysart will be sorely missed

in this assembly. Always an able debater, he was also a friend, and leaves many friends in all walks of life.

Mr. Gallant and Mr. Robert McAllister served for many years as M.L.A.'s. They were keenly interested in municipal government, contributing a great deal over the years for the betterment of community life.

Mr. Greenlaw was a successful farmer, always actively interested in organizations for the betterment of farming conditions.

Although not personally acquainted with Mr. Fraser Keay, his record speaks for itself. He also served with distinction in this assembly.

It was only a few days ago that we heard of the death of Mr. Melanson. He had served in this assembly for many years as a minister and as a private member, in both capacities serving well and faithfully. His death is to be regretted.

Mr. Speaker, the presentation of the budget is an annual event which is looked forward to by the people of *New Brunswick* with a great deal of anticipation, and justly so, because, after all, it affects the lives, the standard of living, and has a bearing on the financial existence of everyone in *New Brunswick*.

It must have been with a great deal of disappointment and even with fear that *New Brunswickers* learned on the evening of March 3 that for another year this Liberal government was to mismanage the affairs of the province to such an extent that we will be going into debt at the rate of \$1 million a month.

Opposition members, myself included, have charged this government with irresponsibility and being unrealistic in the handling of the finances of *New Brunswick*. I repeat these charges today and will add that the government is continuing its practice of deception and broken promises. Mr. Speaker, I agree these may be harsh words and should not be said idly, but, Sir, with the time at my disposal this afternoon, I am prepared to prove that they are correct.

I would like first, Sir, to spend a few moments on my own county of *Victoria*. I wish to congratulate my colleague, Mr. Rideout, for the very able address made by him last Friday. I can only say that I reaffirm everything said by him in re-