

*The Address—Mr. La Salle*

suppose that the Montreal members will find it their duty to meet my invitation and will request from the government the financial assistance required by those games since it has not yet been required by anybody here.

With a view to stimulating the competitive spirit of all young Canadians willing to participate in those games, I think it would be only fair if the whole country were to support the cost. I am all the more free to speak that I am not myself from Montreal and that the authorities of this city have made laudable efforts for this important project to succeed. And if these games took place in Toronto, I would say exactly the same thing.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I should like once more to urge the minister responsible for housing not to forget that serious matter that was often discussed and which seems to have been neglected up to now, the removal of the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials. I think the matter has been in the air for three years now and many seem to have made an about-turn. The government has remained silent on the subject. Political parties, taking into account the composition of this parliament, would have a unique occasion to force the government to have that tax removed and the beneficial effects it might have are well known. The suggestion was made on many occasions and I repeat my request one more time.

I could not conclude my remarks without touching upon agriculture, an industry that holds an enviable place in my constituency. I was very pleased to hear some mention in the Speech from the Throne, for the first time, I believe, of amendments to Canada's feed grain policy in order to allow eastern producers to obtain that grain for the same price as western producers. My hope is that this year the amendments to the feed grain policy will retain the attention of all hon. members—both from eastern and from western Canada—because our policy should have a national scope if we want to show better justice toward the producers.

I recommend to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) to lend an ear to the request of the dairy producers and to agree to a grant increase of 50 cents, since the production costs increase from year to year. In my view, the request of Canadian dairy producers is thoroughly justified and I intend to support that representation.

In my opinion, we forget something about farmers. I know that in my constituency there is an organization of young farmers who complain because they cannot take advantage of the management courses sponsored by the Department of Manpower and Immigration. A very substantial assistance could be offered to those young producers who would probably no longer have to ask for grants after a certain number of years, being more qualified and better businessmen. Those management courses are quite important for those young farmers and I hope that the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras) will remember that recommendation which I make on behalf of the young farmers of my constituency. I imagine that the same concern is felt in other parts of the country.

What about the buying back of small farms? I know that recently the Minister met his counterpart from Quebec; I also know that negotiations are still underway and that

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agreements have not yet been reached but I would invite the Minister of Agriculture to consider seriously the arguments submitted by his counterpart from Quebec in respect of the priorities chosen by that province.

I have heard ministers say how important the priorities of the provinces are to them and on that basis I must be more confident than ever that the hon. Minister of Agriculture will consider carefully the priorities established by Quebec so that the latter can benefit by the buying-back-of-small-farms program and so that no farmer will be penalized by an agreement that is late coming.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I wish the new members a lot of success in this house and I invite them to participate actively in its business. I caution them against a certain form of disappointment, as I experienced in 1968. It is important to keep in mind first the interests of society if one really wants to assume his responsibilities. This is an invitation I extend to several members and by meeting the needs of society we will allow the government, any government, to act and act quickly. Our responsibility is to force the government to act as quickly as possible but only in the interest of those who have long been waiting for help.

[English]

**Mr. Jim Fleming (York West):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for recognizing me and thus giving me a chance for the first time in this chamber to speak on behalf of my constituents in Toronto-York West. I should like to refer to my constituency in the few minutes allotted to me under our rules. Although I am a new member of this House, I would like also to talk about what I consider the life and mental health of the twenty-ninth parliament to be. I want to make reference as well to the Speech from the Throne which is very important to my people. I hope to spend a moment or two discussing some personal interests of mine as a result of my 10 or 12 years in broadcasting. In addition, I want to make some reference, as have other members, to the death penalty and redistribution to both of which references are made in the throne speech.

Before I comment any further on these matters, I want to offer my congratulations to the mover and seconded who set a precedent and some measure of competence, especially for their colleagues on this side of the House, which it will be difficult for all of us freshmen in this House to equal. No matter what party we represent, we all listened to them with pride. I think they have challenged us to do as well as we continue in our debates in this parliament.

I take some exception to remarks made by my colleague, the hon. member for Nipissing (Mr. Blais). He referred to the fact that some years ago a commission was appointed, and there were many commissions appointed by this House, to consider the Canada-United States border. Coming from North Bay, he expressed regret that at that time North Bay was not made the main border point. I would obviously have had to object if that had happened. I would not want history to be different because Toronto and my constituency, of which I am very proud, would not be part of Canada. As someone who considers himself to be a moderate economic nationalist, I