

The Address—Mr. Mulroney

stronger, fairer, more united Canada to face the great challenges of the next century.

Our program for renewal is about change, about catching up for time lost, for rebuilding our economy, our regions, to boost competitiveness, productivity, technology and new market opportunities. The Government does not accept a second rate approach or a second rate Canada. Our record shows what we can do as Canadians—opening up the North, strengthening our regions, building our cities, and developing technology and communications for all Canadians.

Canada must continue to grow to be able to give comfort to those who need it. That is the nature of our citizenship. We do not turn people away; we give people help. Canada needs the kinds of new industries and new technologies which break the old patterns of regional disparities and social inequalities so that Atlantic Canada, northern Canada and western Canada have the same kinds of unrivalled economic possibilities that we now see in Ontario and other regions of the country. We are happy for that prosperity in central Canada.

I am concerned and convinced that we can do better by working together, management and workers, our scientists, our farmers, our forestry workers and our industries which are ready to meet the challenges which await us.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I indicated and I say so without hesitation that we are not the sole and quiet possessors of the truth. We know that we can count on the most formidable resources: Canadians themselves. Together with them, we will build a country which is stronger, more united and just, more daring in its ideals and more dedicated in its efforts to achieve them.

[English]

As we build the new wealth the country requires we shall expand the hopes and dreams of our citizens for a new Canada. I speak of the health care system that protects us when we are sick, of the pensions that help us when we are old, of the social system that supports us in times of difficulty, of equalization payments that ensure that in Canada a disadvantaged region is never a second class region, of a commitment to women who deserve a fair shake and to new Canadians who arrive at our shores and who deserve nothing less.

As we proceed into the next century we seek, as I am sure do all Members of the House, advances in health care technology which hold the promise of controlling disease and easing the pain and suffering which afflict so many here and around the world. We seek the ability to begin the process to feed a hungry world and begin the eradication of poverty and racism from this planet. We seek a world united in its approach to space exploration and development. In our Speech from the Throne we indicated Canada's desire and willingness to play an even more comprehensive role in the peaceful pursuit of space. We seek a better quality of life, a cleaner environment, a renaissance of the arts and the learning. We seek an end to arms escalation, and we seek the pursuit of a more durable peace.

We are embarking upon a national endeavour to try to prepare this nation for the new world of the 21st century. It is an undertaking no less important and no less grand than the carving of this nation out of the wilderness and the bonding of it by a narrow strip of steel, the bringing in of western Canada, the building of the heart of Canada. Like any great undertaking it will require sacrifice, steadfast resolve and a clarity of purpose from us all.

As a former Prime Minister and a distinguished Member of this House, the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker, enunciated over 30 years ago:

We have but one love, Canada; one purpose, its greatness; one aim, unity of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among the Leaders of the three Parties and I think you would find agreement to provide, as we have in the past, sufficient time for the Leader of the New Democratic Party to complete his speech, notwithstanding the understanding with respect to the length of speeches.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member is suggesting that the speech of the Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent) be allowed to continue beyond the normal time. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, I want to observe at the outset that I heard the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) quote very early on in his remarks favourable comments about the performance of the Government of Canada, all of which originated outside of Canada. He then went on to quote none other than Tom Axworthy of *The Toronto Star*. I wish to say to the Prime Minister that the last time I heard only foreign sources quoted about a favourable performance of the Government of Canada and then heard Tom Axworthy quoted it was by Pierre Elliott Trudeau when he spoke just before the 1979 election. I am not sure that the direction of his thought is the most constructive for the longevity of his Government. However, I now wish to get on to the serious matter before us, which is the debate on the Speech from the Throne which we heard here in Ottawa two days ago.

• (1400)

Canadians heard, as indeed they did again today, the words "national reconciliation", "social justice", and "economic renewal". The Prime Minister not only used those words again in the House today, but he said that they were laudable in terms of establishing goals for Canada. I should like to say in terms of my Party that we as well think they are quite laudable goals. And if we did a survey on all streets in Canada, the people of Canada would agree.