

*The Address—Miss Campbell*

years will not get additional increases in fish quotas, but the two new supercompanies will. They will be guaranteed access to the quotas for five years. My concerns are real Mr. Speaker. Where will the fishing industry be in five years? Will the federal Government and the Provinces of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland still be required to deal with the problems of the offshore groundfish industry? I may be pessimistic, Mr. Speaker, but my concerns reflect those of my constituents and other areas of the East Coast.

South West Nova is also a very good farming area. We have good dairy farmers, some beef farming and fruit farms. We have some of the best mink producers in Canada. We have an active hog industry, and we also have a very real involvement with forestry. The area has been protected to some extent from the recession because our local industry is based on primary resources and we have been able to sell our goods. However, Mr. Speaker, all these industries are seasonal and we are forever looking to acquire longer attachment to the work force for the people who make their homes in South West Nova. Because of the seasonality of employment we are perhaps an area, like many other areas in rural Canada, heavily involved in the unemployment insurance system and the need for job creation. I welcome the additional funding for employment programs, particularly the programs directed toward youth, which we heard about in the Speech from the Throne.

I should like to mention one employment program introduced this past summer by the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Roberts), which I think will be very beneficial for the people of Nova Scotia and, in particular, South West Nova. That is the Local Employment Assistance and Development Program better known as LEAD. It begins on April 1, 1984, and it is designed to respond to persistent local unemployment and economic problems that are community-wide in scope. The objective is to increase the number of permanent jobs by enabling community representative organizations to plan and carry out employment development activities that relate directly to the community's own objectives. Eligible communities include those with a population of less than 50,000 which would meet the following criteria: have an employment problem which is persistent and more serious than in the general area; have potential for increased employment; and have demonstrated a capacity for planning an economic development.

An important element of the LEAD Program is the community based sponsorship. Potential sponsors must demonstrate that they are representative of the whole community and not just of a particular segment. Another important aspect in the development of a community development plan is outlining the steps necessary for overcoming persistent unemployment in the community and how the LEAD program will assist in their implementation.

The LEAD Program will have two components—a project component and a corporation component. The project component provides funds to carry out specific activities related to, (a), enabling a community to prepare an analysis of its current position and a plan for reducing the level of unemployment,

called a planning project; (b), strengthening a community's economic infrastructure within the framework of a local development plan, called the infrastructure project; and (c), creating businesses through community plan development in harmony with regional development strategies, called the enterprise project.

The corporation component has the capacity to provide funds to LEAD corporations which, in turn, provide local businesses with planning technical and professional resources. Corporations will also invest in local businesses so as to result in the creation of new continuing jobs as part of an accepted development plan.

To me, Mr. Speaker, this is a very good program and I am looking forward to seeing communities throughout my area get organized and come forth with representative organizations which will plan and carry out employment development activities that relate directly to the community's own needs and will create permanent jobs.

When one considers the incentives presently under the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion offered to individuals who wish to start a manufacturing or processing business in areas such as South West Nova, one hopes that a combination of the LEAD Program and the Department of Regional and Industrial Expansion will be encouraged to work hand in hand to create permanent employment.

● (1630)

The DRIE Program offers incentives to businesses which wish to modernize or expand. This in itself is very different from the old DREE Program where the grant was for one time. In my view, over the past years this Government's programs have begun to take into account the rural nature of Canada and rural areas such as Southwest Nova.

To return to the Speech from the Throne, I am glad that a new Canada Health Act will be introduced during this session. It should clarify the objectives of Canada's health insurance system and ensure universal access to health care across Canada. Let me point out that we do not have user fees for hospital services in Nova Scotia. The people of our Province should make sure that we do not incorporate such user fees. Medicare should apply to all Canadians, not only to those living in their own Province but to Canadians who visit or wish to move to another province. I know that extra billing for medical services is creating concern. It is going on in Nova Scotia. Medical practitioners in recent years have seen their incomes reduced because of inflation. However, medical fee schedules are a matter for provinces and medical societies to negotiate. Apparently they are not doing this. Provinces may contend that they tolerate extra billing because they do not have enough money to compensate doctors adequately. I ask those provinces, have they really looked at their spending priorities? Perhaps they should state what funds are needed and raise them through general taxation. Introduction of the new Act should bring forth good public discussion on medicare and I look forward to that.