

The Address—Mr. Fane

The C.P.R. was mighty well paid for the Crowsnest freight agreement which is to operate forever. It received about a third of the land in western Canada for the privilege of constructing its railway and continuing the Crowsnest agreement in perpetuity. It has got all the benefits from that land. It got the mineral rights and, believe me, has made great use of them. The C.P.R. certainly should not try to deal the farmers out of delivering their grain. I believe that throughout the whole of western Canada the C.P.R. is dragging its feet in providing box cars for hauling grain to the terminal elevators. I know the minister has already taken this matter under advisement and that the C.P.R. is now doing a better job, but why should it have to be forced to carry out the duties it undertook and was paid for?

While speaking of the C.P.R. I also wish to say it seems a pretty poor show that the board of transport commissioners has allowed that company to discontinue operating the Dominion passenger train across Canada. This is something that should be examined and corrected.

I shall have more to say about agriculture at a later date but now I wish to speak about Indian affairs because in my constituency there is the Saddle Lake Indian reserve. I have known the people who live on it all my life. Over the past nine or ten years their conditions have improved but they are not yet at the state at which they should be. They require more and better education, both academic and technical, and they require more help in getting established in whatever industry they take up, whether it be farming or some other type. They are very able workmen and when they see that they must work they are good, careful workmen.

The Indians on Saddle Lake reserve require individual homes for the recipients of the old age security pension. They asked me to tell the minister, which I did, that they wish to have a block of at least four small homes built and they wish them built on a certain lot so that the old people can be together. Should it become possible they ought to be provided with the facilities that are available to other people. Their aged folk do not want to go to the homes for pensioners that are provided by the provincial government of Alberta even though these homes are very nice and wonderfully run. These people want to be entirely free and they do not want to be pushed around. I certainly cannot blame them for that. In any event, they

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require more and better facilities for education both in the academic and technical fields, and the Indian Claims Commission should certainly put this on the road and into effect.

• (4:40 p.m.)

There are certain things in this regard which must be taken into consideration. I was surprised to note the lack in the Speech from the Throne of mention of the removing of the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials and industrial machinery. The Liberal candidate who contested the election in my riding certainly said that he was going to have this tax taken off. Whether he was speaking on behalf of the Liberal party platform or as an individual I do not know but certainly he indicated that this was going to be done. The new Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Winters) indicated at one time that he was in favour of removing this tax, and I suggest to the government that this is the time to remove that iniquitous piece of legislation and stop this discrimination against Canadians who wish to build homes for themselves.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I must interrupt the hon. member to inform him that his time has expired. Does the hon. member have the unanimous consent of the house to continue beyond his time?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Fane: I wish to thank you and the house, Mr. Speaker, for extending the privilege of allowing me to complete the few remarks I have left. There is nothing in the Speech from the Throne in respect of increases in veterans pensions, war veterans allowances or other allowances to veterans. The Canada Pension Plan certainly requires amendment and, for that matter, required amendment even before it became law. I hope the government will give consideration to making it possible for the 2,500,000 Canadians not now eligible to benefit under the Canadian Pension Plan.

I did note with pleasure that the government proposes to adopt a plank from the Conservative platform. In fact it has already done so by increasing university grants from \$2 to \$5 per capita. I have a great deal to say about the C.B.C., medicare and several other subjects but I will leave these remarks until a later date.

Again I should like to state that I am in complete accord with the amendment moved by the right hon. Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) and I will support it. The amendment reads: