

The Address—Mr. Crestohl

the differences in trade balances with both the United States and the United Kingdom. Never in my experience have I read of a United States congressman pleading with the people of the United States to buy more from Canada, even in the years when we were buying over \$700 million a year more from the United States than we were selling to the United States. Indeed, there were very few in this house who, during the past 50 years, expressed concern about the United Kingdom buying so much more every year from us than we did from her. Surely it is no more vital that we should balance our trade with Japan than with the United Kingdom? However, the economic challenges that are now on the horizon promise to be equally important as those we met in older days by older methods. Never in our economic history was it more important to increase our secondary industry expansion if we are to compete with the common market countries. However, we pray we may develop peace and better will among the nations of this new and smaller world. If so, we shall then be faced with a more exacting challenge if, at the same time, we are to gain disarmament and avoid economic depression.

Let us be ready when the objectives of our present Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Green) are achieved. He is working hard towards that end and, when that time comes, I hope our improved standards of living will require enough new tools and gadgets to replace the employment now used in building atomic bombs and battleships. I urge the government—and I say this with all sincerity although I know I may be on ticklish ground in doing so—to give serious consideration in the near future to the establishment of a government department of industry to act in co-ordination with the respective departments of industrial development in the provinces. I feel this is of paramount importance, to co-ordinate all the efforts. I have referred to many of the efforts the government is making. I compliment the government for the steps it has taken, for the new concept that it has demonstrated, but I urge the government that the time is rather overdue when we should have a department of industry to accelerate the development that is so vital for our future.

As one whose interests are chiefly farming, and representing a rural district, I have no hesitation in forecasting that such a department of industry can be as important to our general Canadian economy during the next 25 years as the Department of Agriculture was in the past 25 years.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry—

Some hon. Members: Go ahead.

Mr. Habel: As dean of the house.

Mr. Speaker: Then, will the hon. member continue?

Mr. Rowe: The challenge to make such a theory an economic reality can be met by a new, enlivened spirit of co-operation. The old time sectional differences and class distinctions that tempted politicians to play on such ill-founded prejudices must be replaced by a new outlook. The west and the east, agriculture and industry, capital and labour must be more united and complementary to each other in this broadening concept of our future greatness. The vastness and variety of our resources can provide for increasing exports to the markets of older countries. Our high standard of living and increasing population can create a home market of unprecedented volume for our manufactured products as well as the greatest hope for our agricultural output.

I compliment the government upon the advanced steps they have already taken in this new concept regarding industrial expansion. Upon this approach depends new opportunities for the genius and enterprise that will develop a more balanced economic future so vital to all classes of our national society.

I hope that in the future we will have a more balanced development than we have had in the past. I am not going to lay all the blame on those who were in power for so long, but in all fairness I have to lay a lot of the blame on them. I say again that the present government cannot be expected to correct in one term of office the situation which has developed from such complacency. I hope that when this government is returned to office they will establish a new department of industry and give industry its proper place with agriculture in this country.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. gentleman permit a question that springs from his very interesting speech? In urging the government to establish a department of industry, is the hon. member suggesting that this department should plan the development and the direction of investment? Is he advocating some measure of planning?

Mr. Rowe: No, I had not thought of taking over the investments yet. I thought I would be interfering with the policies of some other party if I did that.

Mr. L. D. Crestohl (Cartier): Mr. Speaker, I should like at the very outset to join my colleagues in congratulating the mover and the seconder of the motion for the address to His Excellency. Of course, it is always refreshing to hear the hon. member for Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Rowe), who has such a