

trend towards so-called assimilation is that of intermarriage between the French and the English. It is quite obvious, from the rate at which these marriages are now taking place, that the relationship is good, and it can be said that in the majority of cases the parties to these mixed marriages are partial to the French culture.

At the same time, unless there is a vibrant economic life in the area, people will migrate elsewhere and their departure will have adverse effects on both cultures.

As I was looking for material to compile these few notes, I came across two reports. The first I have already mentioned, and quoted from a cultural standpoint; the second is a 200-page report which was received jointly by the Nova Scotia Department of Development and the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs, with the object of preparing an economic base study of the southwestern region of Nova Scotia and identifying economic development opportunities for the region.

I am very pleased with this last-mentioned report because it states very realistically the potential of the area. This part of the province, because of its geographic location, is unlikely to attract big corporations and, therefore, it has only one choice, which is to recognize that its industrial development is for the most part tied to the available natural resource bases which are the sea and the forest. The full development of these resources holds the key to the continuing good living standards which the people of this area now enjoy.

Therefore, within the region we aspire to a good employment climate so that the ranks to our population will not be further depleted. We would like to keep more of our young people in the region. We hope that the English-speaking population will continue to appreciate the Acadian culture.

The basis of the local economy is the fishing industry. I believe the Minister of Fisheries is fully aware of the importance of this natural resource, and that he wants to conserve it. I would hope that the fishermen will continue to receive the cooperation of government in their efforts to keep up to date with the latest techniques in fish processing and marketing. In

line with a good research program, I believe the government should locate a fisheries school in the area.

I said earlier that due to its geographic location the southwestern area of Nova Scotia is not likely to draw big outside industry, yet, by virtue of its being within easy reach of the New England states, it is an ideal terminal for ferry services between Yarmouth and Bar Harbour, Maine, and Portland, Maine. At present, there are two such ferries. One, the *M.V. Bluenose*, is operated by the CNR, and the other, the *Caribe*, by a private company. It is of the utmost importance that these services be maintained. In the first place, they offer a means to the fishing industry of carrying its fish directly and rapidly to market and, secondly, it brings into Nova Scotia an influx of tourists which are a great boost to local trade. The *M.V. Bluenose* needs to be replaced. It is our hope that the government will keep its word, and provide this replacement.

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We hope to be able to maintain better schools, where the French language can be effectively taught in a manner which will enhance its present low standard. In a further attempt to combat the watering down of our language and culture, we desperately want to convey to the three levels of government our need to keep our bilingual college, le College Sainte-Anne, whose services ought not to be measured in dollars and cents but rather on the value of its contribution to the cultural life of the community.

I will serve no useful purpose in further expanding the list of our aspirations, honourable senators, because I know I have exhausted your patience. I shall therefore terminate my remarks with this thought: We should always bear in mind that, regardless of race, colour, religion or language, men and women all over the world were meant to work together in order to make the world a better place in which to live. It seems to me that our most pressing need in Canada today is tolerance. Narrow, bigoted nationalism, indeed bigotry of any kind, should find no place in the context of Canadian society.

On motion of Senator Austin, debate adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.