

*The Address*

**Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth):** Mr. Speaker, I listened with a great deal of interest to what may be the final speaker from the government side talking about this very fuzzy document called the Speech from the Throne. I have had great difficulty with this.

**An hon. member:** Read it in French.

**Mr. MacDonald (Dartmouth):** I think it would be equally bad in both official languages.

One of the problems that I have with the document is that it is long on platitudes, but the government's actions during the last number of years speak much louder than some of the hollow words in the Speech from the Throne.

One of the things in particular that I find offensive is the fact that this document—the member talks about economic competitiveness—talks about economic well-being being linked to national unity.

In the last number of years, this government has done everything humanly and subhumanly possible—some people might say—and in its power to ensure that we have not just one or two Canadas but that we have a

number of different Canadas, all based on the level of input that you can put into society.

The level of economic disparity—he wants to talk about competitiveness—and economic renewal is really what will bring about great national unity. I would like for him to comment for a few minutes about how he could possibly justify the transfer of the burden of taxation from the federal government with its vast taxing powers to the poorest provinces in the country.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Order, please. It is 5.45 p.m. and I must end the debate. I remind all members that the motion was carried on division 15 minutes ago.

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons)** moved:

That the Address be engrossed and presented to His Excellency the Governor General by Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to.

[*Translation*]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** It being 5.46 p.m., the House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 5.46 p.m.