

*Natural Resources—Development*

The government of Canada, to be fair and honest, did give them some consideration. They gave them a subsidy of so much per mile for a limited number of miles, but it was not anything like what was necessary to complete the development or to make it possible for the government of British Columbia to build a railway sufficiently far into the north to tap all the resources that are available there. Therefore the government of British Columbia has had to go and borrow money. Things like that, Mr. Speaker, where a provincial government has to come to the federal government for aid and then only gets a fraction of what is required to do the job, cannot possibly contribute very much to the kind of thing we envisage here, the optimum development of our resources in the interests of the people.

Therefore I think we should adopt a national policy with these six important features; perhaps others, but these six anyway. To recapitulate, they are a national finance and economic commission to co-ordinate government fiscal, monetary, investment, public works and budgetary policies in the interests of all our people; a fair and more just division of the revenue dollar among the federal, provincial and municipal governments; the revision of our taxation structure; the establishment of a national statistical and advisory bureau that would chart, measure and record all Canadian resources, including those having to do with the production of energy; the training of adequate personnel so we would have sufficient to call upon in our developmental efforts, and better transportation facilities, especially into those areas that are somewhat isolated from the centres of population.

I believe, as I say, that if we were to adopt a policy involving at least these six important features we would then have a national policy that would be successful in doing the job envisioned by the Leader of the Opposition. Before I sit down I want to say that we support that part of the amendment which, as I indicated earlier, has to do with resources development.

**Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra):** Mr. Speaker, in advancing this amendment today the members of the Conservative party are doing so because we believe very sincerely that it sets out what should be the long-term policy for the development of Canadian resources. On this issue there is a basic difference between the thinking of the government and our thinking, and first of all I propose to read the amendment. It advocates:

[Mr. Low.]

. . . that the welfare of the Canadian people requires the adoption now of a national development policy which will develop our natural resources for the maximum benefit of all parts of Canada, encourage more processing of those resources in Canada, correct the present serious unfavourable trade balances, foster wider financial participation by Canadians in the development of our resources, and promote greater opportunity and employment for a steadily increasing population.

Let us now look at the policy of the Liberal party in this regard. Government policy since the war has been in the first place to concentrate on trying to promote trade with the United States. Right through that picture this government has tried to put all Canada's trading eggs in the one basket. In the second place, its policy has been essentially to export raw materials, or materials which have been semi-processed, and to import manufactured goods.

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that that continues to be the policy of the Liberal party today. I have good authority for my statement, namely the Minister of Trade and Commerce. On December 3 of 1956 he spoke to the Women's Canadian Club in Montreal reporting on his trip to Japan. In the course of that speech he had this to say:

But, as you know, Canada finds it economical to produce large surpluses of raw materials and foodstuffs with which to pay for the large quantities of imported produce and manufactured goods.

Then he also had this to say. He was telling these ladies what he had advised the Japanese. He said:

I pointed out to them that Canada is the largest import market in the world for manufactured goods . . .

Mr. Speaker, the Conservatives have not the slightest ambition to make Canada the largest import market in the world for manufactured goods. We believe that Canada should be manufacturing far more of her own goods than she is manufacturing today. But here you have the responsible minister boasting of the fact that Canada is the largest import market in the world for manufactured goods.

**Mr. Byrne:** After all, he is the minister of trade.

**Mr. Green:** Perhaps my good friend the hon. member for Kootenay East will pay attention to what the Canadian Labour Congress have to say if he will not listen to me. No wonder that in their brief presented to the government of Canada on January 23 of this year they had this to say:

. . . we question whether it is necessary and desirable for Canada to have to import \$3,600 million worth of fully or chiefly manufactured goods as we did in 1955. We ask the government to give careful and active consideration to this question. We think that encouragement should be given to the development of secondary industry in Canada.