

of dredging the channel to allow larger vessels to proceed up the river to the towns of Chatham and Newcastle. I hope that this study will prove that dredging is feasible. If such is the case I shall expect the work to be carried out forthwith. The dredging of the channel is of utmost importance to the economic wellbeing of our area, so that its products may be moved on to the markets of the world at a transportation cost that is not prohibitive.

Although I am fortunate to live in and represent the area I do, we are not without problems. For many years the future of the ammunition depot, CFAD Renous, has been in question. After my election I asked the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Richardson) to make a public announcement regarding the present and future status of this installation so that the employees there would be able to plan their future in an orderly fashion.

On August 23, 1974, the minister announced that CFAD Renous would close on September 1, 1978, and that the closure would be accomplished through a series of lay-offs spread over four years. The minister also committed his department to making every effort to ease the hardships by finding alternate employment for those who will not be eligible for superannuation without penalty. Most of those employees are veterans of world war II and the Korean war. Therefore, I strongly urge that Her Majesty's government consider, on an emergency basis, a satisfactory solution to this serious problem.

We cannot afford to lose an establishment which brings \$2.5 million worth of economic opportunity into a rural area where other job opportunities are practically non-existent. Since this situation has been brought about by a government decision, I hold the government responsible for showing initiative in solving the problem.

We are still plagued in northeastern New Brunswick with a woeful lack of television and radio production and transmission facilities. Indeed, to my knowledge New Brunswick is the only province in Canada that lacks of CBC owned facility. Northeastern N.B. is now served by Moncton Broadcasting Limited, operating on channels 7 and 12 whenever they are able to overcome technical difficulties. On September 27 the CRTC handed down a decision according to which the New Brunswick Broadcasting Company would provide CBC programming to northeastern N.B. on channels 12 and 7, while Moncton

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Broadcasting would provide CTV programming on channels 4 and 6.

But to the consternation of everyone in my constituency, CRTC has allowed these two companies a full year to work out the arrangements for the one to compensate the other for channel transfers. The same decision forbids the construction of the required facilities until a compensatory solution has been achieved. It appears then that the television service for northeastern N.B. is still two years away, and that is not satisfactory. At the same time that entire area in N.B. is without FM radio reception. I hardly knew before I came to Ottawa that one could listen to a radio station that was not 80 per cent commercials.

Many other proposals in the Speech from the Throne will improve the lot of my constituents. I was happy to hear the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Ouellet) state in this chamber last week that he wants to increase protection for the consumer. I subscribe to his view that those who rip-off the little man for the sake of unfair corporate gains should be sent to prison. Surely they are as criminal as those who break the game laws. If the little man stole from the corporation presidents, he would very soon find himself before the courts. Justice must be even handed, and I have no sympathy for those who gouge the public.

I am sure that the veterans of this nation will be relieved to learn that their benefits will soon be increased, as will those receiving old age security benefits. I hope that the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) will be able to find a way to speed up the deliberations of the Canadian Pension Commission. It is small consolation for a needy veteran to be told he will probably get a pension in six or eight months when the commission gets to his application. I do not intend this to be a criticism of the commission. I am sure its chairman and members are sincere and sympathetic individuals doing their jobs as best they can. I only hope that we can find a way to expedite the processing of the application.

**Some hon. Members:** Five o'clock.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin):** The hon. member can call it five o'clock. It being five o'clock this House stands adjourned until Tuesday, October 15, at eleven o'clock.

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.