

*The Address—Mr. Crouse*

eat." I believe that we, with our superabundance of material things, are well able to provide a goodly measure to meet the needs of the hungry in other lands as well as technical assistance which will help them raise their standards of living and provide for their own needs.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I believe that Canada must press forward and fulfil its role in the world as a peace keeping, peace loving and peace making nation. Canada has fulfilled its responsibility in this respect. It has risen to the challenge and we have made a tremendous contribution in this regard. Our serving men abroad have established an excellent record. I believe that we must continue to do so in order that Canada will be looked upon as a nation which not only knows how to organize its own affairs but is able to contribute from its abundance and play its part in order that people everywhere may enjoy the fruits of their labour and their rights in keeping with the dignity of mankind.

● (3:20 p.m.)

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg):** Mr. Speaker as one of the representatives from the province of Nova Scotia, which was one of the four original provinces which joined in confederation to form Canada, I am pleased to have this opportunity to participate in the throne speech debate in our centennial year.

First of all I wish to take this opportunity to express my sympathy to the family of the late Governor General Vanier who served Canada with such great distinction. I also wish to take this opportunity to express my congratulations to the new Governor General, His Excellency Hon. Roland Michener, who I know will carry on his duties with dignity and in a manner befitting the high office to which he has been called.

I also extend my congratulations to the mover and seconder of the address, the hon. members for Burin-Burgeo (Mr. Jamieson) and Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Côté). They expressed their viewpoints very well and in a capable manner, reflecting credit on the constituencies which elected them to this house.

One hundred years ago Nova Scotians had already developed many proud traditions, and following confederation we looked to the future with confidence. The throne speech states the following:

One hundred years ago, our predecessors—men of many races, creeds and tongues—embarked upon a great exercise in statecraft of which we, today, are the trustees. They laid the foundations. They anchored them in a fundamental sense of unity

[Mr. Patterson.]

that generations of conflict had taught was vital to the common weal. With this realization they erected a structure of government for the freedom, welfare, and prosperity of all who might come in time to inhabit this land. They built according to a federal plan because they knew that unity, with cultural and regional diversity could be harnessed to a positive and enriching role in no other way.

This was the concept. However, many of our hopes and ambitions have never been realized, and our dreams of equal opportunities with other Canadians have all too often fallen short of accomplishment. Despite these facts we have always tried to carry our share of the load, to be builders of this nation, and I hope the ideals of our forefathers will serve as a guiding light to future generations of Canadians who will be faced with the task of continuing to build a stronger and a united Canada.

Nova Scotians have learned a great deal in the past 100 years, and it is useless for us or for anyone to minimize our problems. We have them in both human and material terms, in the expansion of our primary and secondary industries and in the proper development of our educational facilities. However, in recent years we have gained recognition in the international industrial world for our stable institutions, our intelligent and adaptable labour force, and for our strategic location in the trading world.

Progress, however, is not just a matter of new and bigger industries, but also of people at work, trained in new skills so that they can take their place in performing new and exciting tasks. If progress is to have any real meaning it must be related to improved living standards for all our people. When we examine the present and look at the past we have a right to feel encouraged, but we can hardly feel satisfied. Average incomes in Nova Scotia are rising. In fact in 1966, according to the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, our average income increased to \$1,586 from \$1,485, which is the highest per capita income in the four Atlantic provinces.

Despite this fact we have not narrowed the gap between average incomes in Nova Scotia and those in central and western Canada. We still lag behind in the Atlantic provinces, with average incomes a third below the workers in the rest of the nation, and our unemployment rates are double the national average. The third annual review of the Economic Council of Canada leaves no doubt that the relative standards in the Atlantic provinces, when compared with the nation, are not improving, and that the gap is not closing. It would