

and hypocrisy of what they see about them. They are searching for values that will give some meaning to the material side of life. They are looking for quality in life.

Governments, churches, all institutions, must take full cognizance of what is happening. This means not only recognizing the existence of these forces but also acting positively to deal with them. I am certain that the government and its advisers are fully aware of the forces present in society today, but it is clear that this recognition has not been translated into programs and action.

As I stated previously, injustice will no longer be tolerated. Inequalities in society represent a large segment of what might be termed injustice. Inequality in Canada will not be eliminated just by tinkering with the existing order. Surely, the economic council finding that regional disparity has not lessened over decades in spite of significant public efforts demonstrates this fact.

The elimination of inequality in Canada will require a major overhaul of the Canadian economy. The task involved is compounded by the impact of technological change. The degree of economic control now in the hands of the corporate sector, both domestic and foreign, contains the germ of much of our present inequality. The task is unfinished until the economic power held in this private sector is wrested away and restructured to enable people not only to enjoy the good life but also to participate fully in deciding on the good life. The accomplishment of this task involves a host of actions including overhaul of the tax system, action to ensure economic independence, reorganization of many aspects of the economy, adequate housing and a well thought out regional development program. It is because the government's approach is tinkering and timid rather than profound and courageous that I cannot support the motion before the house.

Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, as one of the many new members of the House of Commons in this first session of the twenty eighth parliament I am very pleased to have the opportunity of taking part in this debate.

I, too, would like to congratulate you on your election to the office of Speaker of the House of Commons. I am sure that the many favourable comments that were made at the time of your election on September 12 were well deserved, and I look forward to working under your direction for what I hope will be

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a long time to come. I promise that you will have my complete co-operation in complying with the rules of the house. I also wish to extend the same sentiments to the Deputy Speaker.

Permit me also to compliment the hon. member for Madawaska-Victoria (Mr. Corbin) and the hon. member for Kamloops-Cariboo (Mr. Marchand), on their excellent presentations in moving and seconding the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

My constituency of Assiniboia is the centre one of the three southern ridings in Saskatchewan. It is 200 miles long and up to 90 miles wide, being one of the largest constituencies in the settled parts of Canada. It is mainly an agricultural area, producing some of the highest quality wheat in the west. We also produce other grains, oil seeds, cattle, hogs, and many other farm products, but on the whole our average rainfall is such that wheat is our best crop.

In the Assiniboia constituency we have some very important oil fields, some sodium sulphate mines, and some small but thriving manufacturing plants. We have a population of about 70,000 people of diverse backgrounds, including several communities that are predominantly French speaking. I am indeed grateful for the honour of representing such fine people and such a great area here in the House of Commons. I am also proud to share with the hon. member for Saskatoon-Humboldt (Mr. Lang) the honour of representing the province of Saskatchewan on the government side of the house.

● (8:40 p.m.)

I believe that this is the first time since 1930 that the Assiniboia constituency, which now includes the former Weyburn constituency, has sent a representative to sit on the Speaker's right. This is a tremendous responsibility, especially in view of the fact that I am one of the few members of this house who is a practicing, active farmer, and one of the even smaller number of such on this side. I serve notice here and now that I intend to bring the problems and needs of my constituents and my part of Canada to the attention of this house, and to the attention of the government, at every opportunity.

I was born and have lived practically all my life in the Assiniboia constituency. I have been farming on my own for 38 years and I think I know the viewpoint of the residents of my area. I have seen bad times and good times. The worst times were back in the dirty