

in April, 1980 and was the longest session of Parliament in Canadian history. It was an historic session because in those three and a half years, we have seen a world recession that took many Canadians by surprise. No one Canadian, I am sure, could have predicted at the beginning of 1980 how deep that recession would be. During that session, Parliament was presented with 200 Bills and it passed 150 pieces of legislation.

I might say that during that session, some great legislation was passed, beginning with the Constitution for Canada. The Canada Act brought the British North America Act to Canada with an amending formula, which may not be perfect but which allows Canadians to amend their Constitution. The Constitution also incorporates a Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which will have an effect on Canadians for many years because Governments, both federal and provincial, as well as individuals and businesses, can now be challenged for violations of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

During the past session, we also implemented the National Energy Program. With this major government initiative, Canada should achieve energy self-sufficiency by 1990. Major oil and gas explorations are presently taking place on the East Coast because of this program. This economic activity has been good for Nova Scotia and I hope, with proper direction from industry and Governments, that program will continue to be developed and will bring a new prosperity to the East Coast.

Along with these two major endeavours of the Government, the six and five program was introduced by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) a year and a half ago. Canadians rose to the challenge of reducing inflation in Canada, and today the level of inflation is at 4.9 per cent. During this same period of time, Canada has seen its export trade increase. The Crow rate was reformed to facilitate the transportation, shipping and handling of western grain. We on the East Coast in particular hope to see a continuation of the expansion of the fishing industry. I will return to that matter in a few moments.

Canadians everywhere are concerned with existing world tensions. I recently attended a school poster competition in one of the areas which I represent. The children in the elementary grades had been asked to draw posters indicating what peace in the world meant to them. Children reflect what adults feel. All of those posters reflected the need for peace.

I am glad that the Speech from the Throne addresses the direction that this Government will take toward global peace, and I am pleased that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has launched Canada, through his personal initiatives, toward a goal of restoring the political will necessary for serious dialogue between the East and West on nuclear disarmament. As the Speech from the Throne so clearly states, Canadians need to continue to look for a global partnership for peace in order to ensure a national partnership for prosperity. We can only have that prosperity if the world is also working toward prosperity in a peaceful way.

The Speech from the Throne has been called an action program. It has been called a program which seeks to consolidate the gains of the past three years; a program to reduce inflation; to develop a new and more modern competitive

*The Address—Miss Campbell*

industrial base; to train the labour force for future jobs; to maintain the social safety net; and to protect and extend the rights of Canadians.

● (1620)

As you know, Mr. Speaker, this debate also allows an opportunity for Members of Parliament to talk about the concerns which exist in their constituencies. My constituency, South West Nova, is in the southwestern end of Nova Scotia, and like many constituencies across Canada, it is a rural area. The largest town in the area, Yarmouth, is approximately 8,000 people. Yarmouth is a gateway to the United States for Canadians, and a gateway for Americans to visit Canada. The area has many years of experience in dealing with Americans. Early in our history the southern end of Nova Scotia carried on a great sailing trade with the Boston states. Today we maintain a ferry which goes between Nova Scotia and Maine year round, and during the summer a second ferry goes between the two areas. South West Nova is very dependent on the sea, but not only for trade, as we also have a good fishing industry.

I have concerns about the over-all direction of the fishery on the East Coast. What assurances do we have that the two new companies will operate more efficiently than the old companies? My first concern, after the restructuring Bill, is the additional guarantees of more quotas to the fleets of these two companies. Mr. Speaker, these companies had tremendous supplies of fish in the past and will continue to have that supply; yet they could not market this supply efficiently. Why give them additional quotas to make them viable? Why not see if the operations can be managed properly with the supply they presently have?

The Kirby Task Force was a mistake in my view, because we had to wait two years for the solution and the solution should have been attended to two years ago. The Governments—and I add an “s” because provincial Governments are involved—should have helped those plants which could be efficient; they should have formed new ideas for the excesses Dr. Kirby talks about which existed either within the fishing industry or elsewhere; they should have separated the offshore fleet from the companies and have allowed the fleet to stay within its share of the total allowable catch but let it fish to onshore capacity. This would provide for better distribution of the resource both in terms of catching and in terms of marketing.

If this had been done two years ago, there would not be the problems of additional quotas for the two super-companies. Extra redfish in the Gulf and northern cod could be auctioned by this fleet throughout the Atlantic provinces to the processing plants.

The Nova Scotia inshore fishermen who have been able to market all their catch will not be protected by either Government in the new agreement between Nova Scotia and the federal Government. There will be no assurances written into the agreement for the inshore plants' supply of fish. In fact, the independents and fishermen who have survived the last two