

ordinate a system of communications, highway and railway networks from Newfoundland, by subway under the Strait of Belle Isle, and across the northern part of the provinces to Alaska. This is an excellent study, and I hope that included will be a causeway across the Bering Strait to Siberia, connecting North America with Asia. These projects I have mentioned were all excellent. Some have been developed, some not. Some of the later ones hopefully may be implemented.

I hope that Premier Bourassa's plan to open the James Bay and Hudson Bay areas for development purposes does not fall by the wayside. This proposal should be taken up by the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, as well as the federal government in order to realize the grand canal project and to consider development of Canada north corridor plan. It is to be hoped that the recent disturbances in Quebec will not cause American financiers to lose interest.

If development of the James Bay area took place, it is to be hoped that our aboriginal Indians and Eskimos would be given the opportunity to become totally involved in the economic benefits flowing therefrom, along with other Canadians. Hundreds of Indian and Eskimo children are presently completing high school. Many will take up professions and trades, but their talents may not be needed in the northern regions unless these areas are developed.

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to congratulate both the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, the hon. members for Bourassa (Mr. Trudel) and Assiniboia (Mr. Douglas). Both members have made their constituents proud as a result of their presentations.

Like my colleagues on both sides of the House, I should like also to express my most sincere and heartfelt compassion and sympathy to the family of the Minister of Labour of the province of Quebec, the Hon. Pierre Laporte, in their hour of bereavement and extreme sadness which is shared by the whole country. I also extend my sympathy to the family of the British diplomat, Mr. James Cross, and I am sure it is the prayer of the whole nation that he, at least, is still alive. I have little to add to the multitude of public pronouncements of indignation and horror that have been levelled against those social misfits who have been directing a campaign of physical violence and murder against our society.

May I thank, you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity of commenting on the Speech from the Throne, I did think we would never come back to it. I must confess at the outset that I am going to find it difficult, to say the least, to respond favourably to the attempt in the Speech from the Throne by the government to allay the fears and concerns of the Canadian people.

It is unfortunate that the Throne Speech was not delayed until the government had wrested control of this country from the FLQ. I say this in view of the recent dastardly act, specially the murder of Pierre Laporte, by the FLQ which has taken the heat off the Throne

The Address—Mr. Alkenbrack

Speech. In a few days or weeks from now the government will be out of the woods as far as the Throne Speech is concerned, having not had to face the full weight of just criticism from the outraged members of the House.

For this reason, I was prepared to move a motion, seconded by the hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. Scott), that the House rules relating to the debate on the Speech from the Throne be suspended in order to allow additional time for members who wish to speak on the many economic and social problems that beset Canada. However, it has come to my attention during the last hour or so that some discussions along these lines are presently taking place among the House leaders. Therefore, on the assumption that the House leaders will arrive at a formula that will provide ample opportunity to those hon. members who would like to speak on the Throne Speech, I will withhold my motion for the time being.

The Throne Speech has been upstaged by the recent horrible events that have affected the lives of us all, and I cannot help feeling that the government would welcome an opportunity to fill some of the vacuum created by the speech. I cannot help feeling that the government would welcome the opportunity to explain to this House, and to the Canadian people, why there was so little in the Throne Speech in the way of specific programs designed to clear away the enormous backlog of serious problems that face this country. The problems of unemployment of housing, of unfair competition in our markets from foreign goods and from low cost labour are only a few.

● (3:50 p.m.)

I think I express the sentiment of my colleagues on this side of the House, and possibly a few in the backbenchers on the other side, when I say the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) would surely welcome the opportunity to explain to us what he really meant when he said we were standing on the threshold of greatness. We are all intrigued by the prospect and I for one would like to know whether the Prime Minister was speaking objectively or subjectively. Does he mean that he and his cabinet ministers will soon soar up into lofty heights? If they soar high enough it will delight a multitude of people from one end of the country to the other. I might suggest that if the Prime Minister does not wait too long he might be able to accommodate his cabinet in one of these new jumbo jets. After the Prime Minister and his cabinet have soared out of sight in their futile search for greatness we can employ few more jumbo jets to send his proteges after him. I am speaking of the hordes of hippies, yuppies, draft dodgers, deserters and assorted freaks that the present government welcomes to this country from across the border.

I will not dwell on this at length, because the indignation of most of us has been expressed in this House, except to say that people who have shown clearly they do not respect the laws and traditions of their own society and country could not be expected to have a very high regard for the laws and traditions of our country. It