

He mentioned the marketing of fisheries products. That was an area in which a very severe cut was imposed by this Government. I have notes here on energy that, I would have loved to use but I did not have the time. I say to the Hon. Member that I realize the point he is making, that there are problems in all of Atlantic Canada and this Government better realize that. But I am the Member for Cape Breton-The Sydneys.

Mr. McCain: We inherited them.

Mr. MacLellan: These are the people who elected me. Had I had a whole afternoon, I would have got around to the things he mentioned.

Mr. Nickerson: Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Member for Cape Breton-The Sydneys (Mr. MacLellan) on probably one of the best speeches he has given to the House of Commons. I am fully aware that he has a great deal of concern for the people he represents. I do not want my comments to be interpreted as taking away from that at all. I was sadly disappointed, however, that the Hon. Member did not propose anything positive that might put things right in industrial Cape Breton. He had that doom and gloom sense which Liberals very often have about them. This was mentioned by the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte (Mr. McCain), who asked what the Member had been doing for so long when the Party he supports was in office. What the Hon. Member was giving us was a kind of farewell to Nova Scotia speech.

I had an opportunity to visit the Hon. Member's riding not too long ago and to spend some time with Devco in Cape Breton. I returned with something of a different attitude. I know there are serious problems of unemployment and that things must be done to improve the industrial situation, but I returned with the attitude that there are great things possible in the coal industry there. Coal is expensive to mine in Cape Breton but once you have it, you have it in tide water. Transportation costs to market virtually anywhere in the world are far less than they might be with, say, western coal. Nova Scotian coal enjoys an advantage. With the closure, unfortunate in a way, of No. 26 Colliery, beneficial things did occur because it was the least efficient of the mines. Now with the new Lingan Phalen mine coming into production and the possibilities of Donkin coming in, I see a great future for the Nova Scotia coal industry.

I noticed both in the management and in the workforce there a great *esprit de corps*. People obviously know what they are doing and they have confidence in themselves and in the future of the coal industry. I wanted to inject into the debate something of that spirit of optimism. We cannot write off, nor should we write off, Cape Breton. I think it has a long way to go and a great part to play in the future of Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacLellan: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon. Member for his important and positive question. I cer-

tainly do not take any offence to it whatever. The question helps me if the Chair will give me time to answer it.

I see possibilities for industrial Cape Breton, and indeed for the whole of Atlantic Canada, but that has to be done with the help of both provincial and federal Governments. Referring to doom and gloom, the doom and gloom represents what we see Governments doing on behalf of Atlantic Canada. If we see there is hope and Governments are sincere about helping us, then there will not be the feeling of doom and gloom. Goodness knows, people in Atlantic Canada and industrial Cape Breton could not have carried on without that hope and without feeling there would be a better time. The problem is that industrial development is competitive.

Recently Pratt & Whitney announced that it was going to Halifax. If someone had said to Pratt & Whitney, "You have to go to industrial Cape Breton," that company would have said no. What should be done? Would that mean you would give them all the money they needed to go to industrial Cape Breton? The answer is no. One has to look at the situation as one aspect. We have to encourage industry. We have to tell industry that industry will be successful there and that there is a good industrial framework. As part of that framework one must co-ordinate all departments, both provincially and federally, so that one hand is not doing something contrary to what the other hand wants done. One must not reduce transportation facilities that will be needed for the industrial possibilities which the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the Department of Development in Nova Scotia feel will be necessary to entice development. They have to work together and co-ordinate. You have to have the infrastructure in a community that people need. You have to have schools and hospitals that meet what the people want. That is part of regional development. You have to have downtown facilities that are not elaborate but a conceptual idea of what you are going to develop in that community. Then the people who locate and live there will see this as a community that is being planned for a positive future.

• (1500)

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I am glad that this motion has been moved so that we can produce some facts to show what has been done for Atlantic Canada. However, I have had the unfortunate experience of listening to two discourses which really make one despair.

When I listened to the Hon. Member for Cape Breton-The Sydneys (Mr. MacLellan), I thought to myself of an old song. To paraphrase that old song, it goes, "Oh, Russell, I hardly knew you". Where was all this passion, emotion and disgust a year ago? After all, it was the Liberal Party, which that hon. gentleman represents, that was in power for the last 20 years while these conditions that he described were allowed to arise in Cape Breton. The Hon. Member himself has been here for the last four or five years. Everything he said today about Cape Breton was just as true a year ago, and nothing was done about it. The situation was allowed to worsen and to worsen by