

and His World" is alive and kicking and competing, and "Man and His World" will also have a deficit.

I want to make myself absolutely clear. I begrudge Montreal nothing. If they have got a champagne taste and a beer pocket that is their business. I would be willing to go along and pay for a few drinks just to keep them happy. But my only concern is this—and through you, Mr. Speaker, I appeal to Metro Toronto members whose support I want—that the Canadian National Exhibition which has been in existence for 91 years, and has stimulated the agriculture, trade, commerce and industry of Metro Toronto and Ontario for 91 years, which has brought happiness to millions of people, millions of children, brought in tourists and paid sales taxes for so many years, should get comparable treatment—not special treatment—comparable treatment. The Canadian National Exhibition has always paid its own way, and has not asked for money to cure a hangover. Sure, the Canadian National Exhibition was never as spectacular as Expo, but its directors never had the key to the federal mint like Montreal had. So, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Minister of Finance will remember this when the Canadian National officials come here looking for some face-lifting assistance and some financial Geritol that they so badly need. And I hope that the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang), who has the responsibility for water resources, will stop making a big federal case about a paltry \$1,200,000 worth of land purchased by the Metro Toronto and Regional Conservation Authority for parks purposes, and which he wants back as a credit. This has become a big legal dispute around here.

This \$125 million is a lot of bread. I say again that I do not begrudge Montreal anything, especially in the present plight it is in; I just want a few crusts of the loaf for the people I represent.

• (8:40 p.m.)

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate):** Mr. Speaker, it is very fitting that I should follow the hon. member for York West (Mr. Givens), the former mayor of the great, fat city of Toronto, since I am from the lean province of Newfoundland and the lean riding of Gander-Twillingate. I am not reflecting on the weight of the hon. member. I should like to have the name and address of his speech writer. His speech was stirring, but it left me cold because we had the impression the hon. member would do a job on the

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Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) and reflect on his anti-Ontario budget. Of course, the hon. member did use Mayor Drapeau as the scapegoat and took a strip off him. I shall not become involved in this kind of fight. I will leave it to others.

I perhaps should not say anything at all about the budget because basically that is what the budget did—it did not say anything at all. I did not say anything about the first budget because I was a new member and the government was a new government. I realized that since the government had just come into power we could not expect too much in such a short time. Basically, the budget hit the central theme of the government's intention to curb inflation and perhaps the subtheme of regional disparity, as well as the reflection by the minister on the great array of programs advanced to assist regions of Canada.

In my few remarks I should like to tie the budget in with the minister's statement about regional disparity. When we speak of regional disparity in this country we are not necessarily talking about the effect on a few fishermen in Gander-Twillingate, a few spud farmers in Surrey or a few people who make their living from seal fishing in the Magdalen Islands. We are speaking of the vast number of Canadian people in the Northland, the people in the remote mountain regions of British Columbia, although I am just guessing at this, the inter-lake area of Manitoba, the micro-urban ghettos and most of rural Quebec as well as most of Atlantic Canada. By geographical definition we include most of Canada. We are talking about a sizeable portion of Canada when we speak of the problems of regional disparity.

I want to reflect on the matter of regional disparity because I have indeed been annoyed by the lack of action and the great deal of talk by the government about trying to help the people of the depressed and slow growth areas of this nation. One reason I am a little disillusioned is that I have just finished reading a book written by T. N. Brewis on Regional Economic Policies in Canada. On page 93 he quotes a speech made by the then minister of finance to the tax structure committee on September 14, 1966, in which the minister said:

Where circumstances—whether natural or man-made—have channelled a larger than average share of the nation's wealth into certain sections of the country, there should be a redistribution of that wealth so that all provinces are able to provide to their citizens a reasonably comparable level of basic services, without resorting to unduly burdensome levels of taxation.