

I wish to draw his attention to the following.

In the Montmagny area there has been talk for some years now of setting up a marina in order to promote recreation activities and to produce new jobs, which would contribute to the development of the region of Montmagny.

I hope that it will be possible to help the Montmagny area with regard to the setting up of a marina and that an agreement can be reached at all levels of government—federal, provincial and municipal—in order to provide the funds for the dredging of the channel leading to the wharf at Montmagny.

It has become necessary to build that harbour. It is urgently needed. I hope that under Bill C-205 regulations will enable the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion to respond to the numerous requests made to that effect by the municipal authorities and all the organizations in my region which are really interested in those problems.

Despite the weaknesses and faults of the bill, I feel that a worth while effort has been made. I would have liked to see some flexibility in the framework of the legislation. On page 5 of the statement of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, one may read as follows:

In the areas of Quebec, Ontario and the four western provinces already designated, incentives will remain at their present level.

I understand that the government had to stop somewhere. However, I suggest to the minister to see to it that an industry settles in the Montmagny region and is given the benefit of certain incentives. Even if to do so it is necessary to amend the bill in some way, I am sure that the minister will take my request into consideration.

I am convinced that all those who are really concerned with the problems now confronting us will wish to make their contribution in order to find solutions as quickly as possible. When reading the newspapers, I see that it is possible to sell Canadian products on international markets. I am delighted with that situation, for this is an effective way of helping make of Canada a country which will develop further and enable our young people from 18 to 22 who have completed their studies and would expect to be rapidly hired, to earn a living while making an all-out effort to do more for their Canada. It will then be possible to achieve this goal and bring renewed hope to our youth, which is so very necessary.

● (8:30 p.m.)

[English]

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** Mr. Speaker, this is certainly a very important bill and it is sponsored by a very important minister. If we believe the savants of the press, he is one of the three most important members of the cabinet, sharing with the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier) that special essence of power which is not shared by others. Therefore, I enter this debate with a great deal of trepidation in that I am looking upward toward a very high pinnacle. I should like to say how very much I appreciated the remarks of the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert), a member whose sincerity and

#### *Regional Development Incentives Act*

concern for the people of his province and for all of Canada I salute and applaud as I have done ever since he became a member of this House.

I naturally subscribe to the remarks made on behalf of our party by my colleague, the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath), in his very powerful and thoughtful address this afternoon. He set out some very cogent considerations. Reflection upon these will benefit the minister, I would say, and benefit the country. My friend called for more discussion by the federal government with governments at the municipal and provincial level. With this I agree, though I cannot help but express a little caution on this matter since I come from the province which has had more sustained and concentrated discussions and negotiations on a bilateral basis than has any other. I have the awful feeling that after all these negotiations and after all these discussions, all the signing and the fanfare, my province did not come up with a particularly good bargain. When I look upon a great development program whereunder Prince Edward Island, the smallest and second poorest province in the Dominion, would foot two-thirds of the bill and the great and vast government of the Dominion of Canada would pay the rest, I wonder at the efficacy of this sustained and continuous bargaining.

With longing I recall the old days when cost-sharing between Ottawa and provincial capitals was on a 50-50 basis. In many special considerations it was 75-25 in favour of the provinces and in some cases, such as certain aspects of the Trans-Canada Highway, Ottawa picked up 90 per cent and the province 10. I am not suggesting that had they talked less they might have produced a better bargain, but I say to my friend from St. John's East that all the talk, all the planning between Charlottetown and Ottawa in my opinion did not produce a most favourable relationship so far as Prince Edward Island is concerned.

My friend from St. John's East made a statement to which I think all of us would subscribe when he said that we do not quarrel with the designation of Montreal. Of course, we do not; but I am afraid that I will have the utmost difficulty in explaining it. Certainly it will not be an easy exercise. It has been my conviction for a long long time that many of the economic problems which Quebec faces are similar to those which the Atlantic provinces have faced, and that over the years Quebec and the eastern provinces should have been more closely co-ordinated in their efforts. But I would be less than candid with the minister if I did not point out that there would be some difficulty in the Atlantic area.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to quote from a recent emanation of APEC, an organization with which I am sure the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) has the closest relations. This article reads in part.

Designation of centres in Quebec and Ontario under the regional incentives program deals a serious blow to the Maritimes' industry-attracting efforts, says the Atlantic provinces Economic Council—

In a prepared statement, Harry Flemming, council executive vice-president, warns that designation of these areas—