

two hours of radio time to discuss the Competition Act with the people of Fraser Valley East. The response was excellent.

I have considered, rightly or wrongly, that my purpose in this House of Commons is not only to rise on a night when the Speech from the Throne is under debate to speak politics to my constituents; I believe I represent them in this arena, that I represent them in Ottawa in the House of Commons and in the government. I should also like to pay tribute to people in the public service who have assisted us with problems, who have explained situations and who have helped very much in respect of some of the problems relating to the constituents of Fraser Valley East.

But this is a two-way street. While I firmly believe I represent my constituents here in the House of Commons, I also believe I have a duty to represent the government of Canada in my constituency. I believe this is what we should do, and it certainly is what I would like to do. We are now facing the possibility of another election. I firmly believe the people of Fraser Valley East are able to search through the information given to them. The information they receive from the media, I am sorry to say, has not always been that which I would consider to be enough. I would consider the priority, perhaps, has been on views rather than news. As a matter of fact—I know it is a risky statement to make, but I am prepared to make it—I believe we should endeavour, if we can, to supply more information to the members of the press gallery so they might understand the entire workings of the House of Commons and would not state that the number of times a member rises from his seat in the House of Commons is the important thing. Perhaps they should attend some of the committee meetings day after day.

I would be happy to invite someone to come to my office at nine o'clock in the morning, stay with me until eleven o'clock at night and come back on Saturday. I would like them to hear the telephone conversations I have with people in my constituency. I would like them to know the number of telephone calls I have had today about railroad tracks in Hope, B.C., about the harbour bill and all the other problems. I do not want to be known in my constituency and in the House of Commons simply because I made the "spoonerism" of the year. I would like them to know, through the media, those things I do in an effort to help the constituency because we do spend about 60 or 70 hours a week in these buildings; we spend the time here doing our job.

We speak on subjects on which we want to speak and on which we feel we might supply some input. It should be taken into consideration that we have already spoken many times in caucus and committees and have done our best to influence various pieces of legislation according to what we deem to be the desires of the majority of our constituents. So I have never been able to quite understand the view held by some people, although I admit this is my first term of office here.

In closing, I should like again to thank the members of the House of Commons for the association I have had with them over the years. I feel our committees, regardless of what has been said, are highly successful. In committee, members have an opportunity to go into a matter in much greater depth than in the House of Commons. I

Speech from the Throne

believe when we look at all the bills which we have passed, and look at what has been done for the good of Canadians, the Canadian people will realize that our Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is probably one of the greatest prime ministers we have ever had. He has been courageous in his statements and there is no doubt that we mean business, for the benefit of the Canadian people, and I am sure we will receive their support.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, commentators on the Speech from the Throne have described it in various ways. Some have declared it to be half froth and the rest pink lemonade and purple platitudes. Certainly, it is a speech which can give satisfaction only to the affluent, to those comfortable enough not to have to worry about government help; and their number is diminishing daily. For any real indication of government policy in this election year we had to await the speech of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). It proved to be a really clever production.

Ever since the dawn of history, kings and presidents, unwilling to face up to difficult situations at home, have sought to divert people's attention elsewhere. Our local emperor is no exception. Realizing that his government has failed to deal with the serious problems of people in sector after sector in this country, the Prime Minister soared above all domestic matters and assumed the heroic posture of Horatius on the International Bridge, prepared to defend Canada against the whole might of the United States, not crudely, mind you, but without—to use his own words—"fantasies of either frightened timidity or false bravado". We shall see. The posture is heroic but it is no substitute for legislation to prevent further foreign takeovers of our resources and our industries.

While we admire the dramatic ability of our modern Horatius, we shall have to await solid legislation from this government. The Prime Minister in his speech indulged in another diversionary exercise, one which we may expect to see employed over and over again during the coming months. Against the uncertain and perplexing background of our time he indicated, with a few masterly strokes, the unrest, disturbances and dire emergencies faced by other countries. Turning quickly to Canada, he found our solutions in most cases "very satisfactory". He mentioned the free access of exporters to world markets, the favourable investment picture in foreign securities, the close ties of our two North American economies. In short, God is in his North American heaven and all is right with Canada.

All this was a build-up for his approach to unemployment. Indeed, he prefers to deal with employment rather than to have to deal with the distasteful issue of joblessness. He informs us that between 1965 and 1970 over one million new jobs were created in Canada; this figure was greater than the combined number of new jobs created in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom. What this has to do with his government's record in Canada, I fail to see, but I can see that it is an attempt to draw attention away to far off fields rather than to leave it on the bleak record at home.

He says that more than 200,000 new jobs were created in Canada in 1971. What he fails to say is that 665,000 Canadians were out of work in January, 1972, and that the