

Mines of lead, zinc and iron ore are not inexhaustible, and year by year each individual mine becomes economically less profitable, and miners must perforce go to other areas. Even now in our own province we are faced more and more with this problem. One mine alone, supporting 14,000 people, has recently closed down for a period of seven weeks, and I do hope, honourable senators, that it is just for a period of seven weeks.

There is only one way to prevent the coastline of Newfoundland—and we have 6,000 miles of it—from becoming deserted, and that is to assist in the establishment of more modern methods of catching, curing and distributing to the markets of the world the products of the sea.

I am happy to see that the Government is becoming more active in endeavouring to tackle this problem, as greater assistance must come from some source to maintain the existence of our coastal fishermen and our sailors until such time as the growth in population across this nation provides a greater and more constant market for the products of the sea. If we are to become great as a nation, and I am sure we shall, then we must assist in the healthy development of one of our greatest natural resources.

You will forgive me, I am sure, honourable senators, for referring again to my native province, and your tenth liability. I say "liability" advisedly, for each of the provinces must be a liability when we consider this fact alone, that last year some \$1,470 million was contributed by the federal Government to the revenues of the ten provinces. This, according to my reckoning—and I am not infallible—amounts to some \$82 per head of our population, and, for our own information, I should like to point out that this figure of \$82 per head of population last year compares with some \$38 per head of the population in the fiscal year of 1956-57. In other words, in 1961-62 the federal Government's contributions to the provincial revenues were more than twice what they were in 1956-57.

I believe that the federal Government's contribution to Newfoundland's revenue last year amounted to nearly 60 per cent of the total revenue. That is why I said that we in Newfoundland are a liability—we are a liability like every other province, but we may be a little more so. Incidentally, the total contributions from the federal Government to Newfoundland—and this includes not only grants conditional and unconditional but also payments to individuals in the form of unemployment insurance, old age pensions, and so on—increased from \$28 million in

1950, to \$46 million in 1956, and from \$55 million in 1957 to some \$100 million in 1961. However, we shall not always be a liability, and in our opinion our natural resources, when properly developed, particularly in that mineral and timber rich area of Labrador, will make us one of Canada's greatest assets in an economic sense.

Our great paper-making industries at Grand Falls and Corner Brook have for many years comfortably supported a large percentage of our people. They are happy, industrious and patriotic. At Grand Falls alone in 1940 I personally helped to enlist for service overseas more than 1,000 men who left good jobs to fight gallantly for the preservation of that liberty which we now enjoy.

At this point I must express the great gratitude of all Newfoundlanders for the prompt aid sent by the federal Government last summer when fire threatened, and actually destroyed, large wooded areas in the centre of Newfoundland.

Our province contains 110,000 square miles in Labrador, a land which is rich in mineral deposits and timber. About three years ago I accompanied Premier Smallwood on a trip to this vast territory and, as we crisscrossed the area by low-flying plane, we were amazed at the extent of wealth in this wooded area of North America. What a heritage for Canadians! No doubt you are all aware of the great developments there during the past few years relative to mining and power production. In this connection I am happy to note in the Speech from the Throne that incentives are forthcoming to assist industry in scientific research as how best to develop these immense natural resources of electric power and mineral wealth. I am not so sure this refers to Labrador only; I suspect it refers to the natural resources of the whole of Canada.

Great pioneering companies like the Iron Ore Company of Canada and BRINCO and their associates—and I could mention others—are deserving of every encouragement possible from all levels of government.

The Speech from the Throne, which has been so ably discussed by the honourable senator from Shawinigan (Hon. Mr. Méthot), the mover of the address in reply, needs but little further reference from me. At this point I should like to thank the honourable senator from Shawinigan for the very kind references he made to my appointment to the Senate. Members of the Senate seem to have adopted the habit of making all new greenhorns like myself feel at home when they come into this chamber. I have talked to a good many honourable senators and they tell me that they went through the same experiences that I am going through now. I am thankful to say that