

*The Address—Mr. Badanai*

Some are transplanted Americans, others are Canadian born actors, writers, and others who've discovered their talents aren't duly appreciated on the U.S. side of the border and return to Canada frustrated and angry. Even an individual announcer with an anti-American streak can give a platitude a derisive note by the infection of his voice.

And like it or not, this is the basis on which most Americans judge us on our attitudes—another instance of the silent majority being judged by the views of a few.

Last March I made the suggestion in the House that the time may come, when and if it is established beyond the shadow of a doubt that we could have a surplus of fresh water, when we can export this valuable commodity to the United States at a good profit. And why not? Since that time, I have seen nothing valid to change my views on the question.

The United States is our closest neighbour, our best customer, our main supplier, our major source of capital, and our shield against any possible military attack. The Hon. Lionel Chevrier, who was minister of justice when the Right Hon. Lester Pearson formed his government in April, 1963 and former Canadian High Commissioner to London, speaking to the Canadian Club in my constituency had this to say about Canadian-American relations:

• (4:30 p.m.)

We are pulled together by our bilateral trade relationship and by our joint defence efforts, not to mention the joint development of Canadian water resources.

He was referring to the Columbia River Treaty and the cultural exchange between our two countries. I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the new Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Lang) on his onerous appointment to what I consider one of the most important cabinet positions. I express the hope that in following in the footsteps of his distinguished predecessor he may continue an aggressive immigration policy designed to fill this empty land of ours. This is still a country of few people. It still has a weak policy towards the acceptance of eager applicants who wish to be admitted to Canada as landed immigrants, notwithstanding some sincere efforts made by some previous ministers. I have stated before on several occasions, and I repeat now, that the Canadian government's immigration policy, while far better than that of former governments, is still like a cold water tap turned on and off according to the economic winds. I maintain that it is an arbitrary theory which defeats what ought to be the whole purpose of an immigration policy, the enrichment of national life, socially and economically, by a systematic flow of people. Australia, with half the number of habitants, admits nearly double the annual number of immigrants and pays their passage as well. Immigration has helped to give Australia a population of which 50 per cent is under the age of 21. At the present rate of admission, Canada remains a nation underpopulated, with whole regions seriously lacking sufficient people to provide those regions with the energy required for their development.

One of Canada's major industries has a problem that is rather unusual these days. Even though unemployment is high, the Canadian mining industry cannot get enough

skilled, as well as unskilled, workers. The world demand for metals is growing steadily and Canada, being a major supplier of the world's requirements, has a social and international responsibility to continue to provide the world's needs which, at the same time, provide Canadians with employment and a higher standard of living. It has been reported that our birthrate is dropping, which is another important factor to be considered in relation to our growth.

I was pleased to note that the Throne Speech contains a promise of a white paper on immigration. I shall look forward to it with keen anticipation, coupled with great expectation, confident that it will spell out in no uncertain terms a new selection criteria designed to attract more people willing to help in our development.

A white paper on citizenship will be indeed welcome, because our present Citizenship Act contains a discriminatory section whereby a naturalized Canadian citizen under certain circumstances is subject to the loss of his citizenship. I submit that if a naturalized Canadian citizen were to commit an offence of a treasonable nature, there is a law that will take care of him. The same law would apply to a natural born Canadian citizen. The present Canadian Citizenship Act needs revision in another important aspect, which is this: at present citizenship is denied for various reasons which are not made clear to the applicant. I have in mind cases where applicants with a good reputation, with no police record and who have lived in Canada for more than 20 years, have had their applications for citizenship rejected time after time because at one time or another they have been members of certain organizations. I sincerely hope that the proposed white paper will indicate the repeal of these objectionable features in our present Citizenship Act.

The Prime Minister in his speech on Friday, October 9, indicated his concern for the plight of those on fixed incomes and said that something has to be done to alleviate a condition created by inflation, from which pensioners have suffered most. Increased benefits under the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security, effective on January 1, 1971, do not meet the increases in the cost of living. I, therefore, urge the government to consider, without delay, a reasonable upward revision of pension benefits in line with the reality of the rising cost of living index.

In a Speech from the Throne debate it is almost invariably the custom for a member to bring to the attention of the government some particular need of his electoral riding. I have a very special project to which I trust the government will give favourable consideration.

Fort William is the constituency that I have the honour to represent. It is an old city which, since amalgamation with the former sister city of Port Arthur, is now part of the city of Thunder Bay.

The Historical Society of Thunder Bay is composed of members dedicated to the preservation of its rich history, dating back 300 years. With the advent of the explorers Greysolon and Sier Dulhut, Fort Kaministigoyan was