

on his own credit and doing fairly well. I think such an industry deserves assistance. He was given none.

• (1730)

I suggest that we need better tax incentives for industry in the Ottawa Valley. I also suggest to the House that there should be better marketing assistance. When the government considers these two items positively and specifically, tax incentives and marketing assistance, I am sure it will find that less cash will be needed from what hon. members have called the pork barrel.

Can anyone say with credence—I ask hon. members to answer this question in their minds—that any one county is at a disadvantage in the total, over-all picture when one considers industrial progress? Is any one county at a disadvantage under the status quo, say in western Ontario? I think not. Is any one county in eastern Ontario at a marked, lamentable disadvantage? I think not. We are too closely related, socially and economically, for that to be the case.

That is why we might be better off if we looked more at the vital questions of taxation and marketing instead of saying to a man who wants to borrow money to buy another chipper with which to make more chips from his wood lot, "We will give you a certain percentage per man that you hire." Perhaps the project the man has mapped out will not work if he is given a grant under those conditions. This is another area that should be more clearly defined. I know a man in my riding who approached DREE for assistance in a chip and lumber industry. His is a most reliable firm. The application is being processed. I have recommended the firm and hope the minister will approve the necessary financial assistance and permit the company to see its project through to the end. The firm has been in business for a long time. It is reliable and will continue in business whether or not it receives the grant. Other firms in the same area and business have already received grants from DREE. I insist that everyone should be treated in a similar fashion.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, when we talk about the development of parts of Lanark, Renfrew, Carleton or the counties of Frontenac or Lennox-Addington, I ask: what about the development of all eastern Ontario? In adopting this motion, why not adopt a broader outlook? I say there must be a similar assessment of our problems and that the whole area must be treated equitably so that all undertakings in eastern Ontario are given an equal chance. Others here will speak for western Ontario. I support the hon. member's motion in the hope that the program may be extended and that it will bring some of its anticipated benefits to our area.

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I listened with a good deal of interest to the remarks of the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. McBride). I listened to him sympathetically as he put forward a case for the needs of his constituency. I think we could all speak of particular problems facing our constituencies. Using the vehicle of his notice of motion, the hon. member was able to outline to the House some of the problems facing his constituents. I know a little about his constituency, having had occasion some years ago to work there. I found the people particularly hospitable and got along

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well with them. I assure the hon. member that I enjoyed very much the short time I spent there.

In the motion before us I note that the hon. member has made specific reference to an area of his constituency. As I suggested, I cannot blame him for finding an opportunity to deal with the problems of the people he represents. At the same time, I must express my view. I had hoped that the notice of motion might be based on a somewhat wider view of the situation. Problems and policies connected with regional development and programs of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion affect the whole of Canada.

I am sure the hon. member appreciates that policies and decisions concerning a particular area of his constituency can hardly be made unless we consider also the situation in other parts of Canada. Thus, I think we must consider other factors as well, particularly—as has been pointed out—the fact that current designations under the Regional Development Incentives Act and the Department of Regional Economic Expansion Act are due to expire at the end of June. The minister has indicated on a number of occasions that he expects in the near future to make an announcement concerning future designations. Naturally, quite a few members of this House are interested in particular areas and in the basic policy approach that will be adopted by the minister during the next three years for future programs which the department may undertake.

This matter is critical, Mr. Speaker. I am sure all hon. members agree with the objectives of regional development. The removal of regional disparities in Canada is something to which we all subscribe and on which we all agree. If we are to achieve these objectives we must examine some important considerations. The department structured its program in a way that would provide for a review of the situation at this time. I think this is a good time for us to consider what the department has done up to the present and where it will go from here.

As I listened to the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton I noted that there are a couple of policies which need to be questioned. One of his assumptions seems to be inherent in the thinking of some people who deal with economic problems. The very simplistic idea that one hears expressed either clearly or in somewhat vague terms is that all that is necessary to solve the problems of an area is to get industry to move in; all that is necessary is to dangle a carrot in front of them, then no problems will follow and everyone will be happy.

• (1740)

Many of us have learned through observing the scene that this is simply not the case. It does not deal with the problem. New industries have moved into particular areas and benefits have accrued from their establishment. However, this has not removed or solved the basic problems of these areas. We have to find something more. We must find an appropriate way of dealing with the problems of economic development and the whole social and economic picture of the region with which we are concerned. We must achieve better integration of government programs.

One of our concerns at the present time is pollution and environmental problems. This question came to my attention last year when there were problems involving the