

The Address—Mr. Lachance

industry as well as from within the government. I can understand that some of the fishing companies would be opposed to it because it does not really matter to them; they can get the fish from whatever source catches it. But it is an important matter for the fishermen.

I suggest too that there is ample precedent for licence limitation. We do not have complete free enterprise in all our trades and occupations. In the professions in this country we have various ways of restricting the numbers. I know restriction is imposed by examination in some cases or payment of fees in other cases, but it is restriction. In the various trades there are also restrictions. It is not always easy to go to the average city and become a registered electrician or plumber. There are means for restricting the numbers of people. I am informed, although I do not have much information on it, that there is a limitation on licensing of fishermen in other countries; I believe the state of Washington has some form of restriction, and I am informed that Australia has also. So I suggest to the minister that this matter should be looked at; because if it is not, the trend which is now under way will drive large numbers of people out of this industry. If this is the intention we are going about it in the right way. The combined effect of these extra people coming in and the very large equipment used in these waters by the companies which can afford it, will eliminate many of the ordinary fishermen, but I do not think this is the purpose that the department has in mind.

I was disappointed, Mr. Speaker, that there was no reference in the speech from the throne to amendments to the Combines Investigation Act. We were given to understand that legislation would be introduced this session on that subject. I realize there will be legislation that was not mentioned in the speech, but my colleagues and I are very interested in this topic and we shall watch to see if legislation comes forth. It was very interesting to note, Mr. Speaker, that there was no Canadian legislation to prevent the take-over of the Labatt Brewing Company by an American firm; rather it was the initiative of the department of justice in Washington which prevented it. We all know that the anti-trust laws of the United States are much stronger and much more rigorously enforced than such legislation is in this country.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I should like to mention one other local matter, and I am pleased that the Minister of National Defence is here. It relates to a decision which was taken some time ago to move the search and rescue unit of the R.C.A.F. from Sea island

at Vancouver to Comox on Vancouver island. I know that aircraft get around quickly, but I suggest that the Department of National Defence ought to have another look at this particular problem.

In the area of the lower mainland and greater Vancouver we have a great concentration of people using small craft, including fishermen and particularly, in the summer, other people operating literally thousands of small craft. There is always the possibility of an accident. There are some real marine traffic jams at times, and I think the search and rescue units should be very close to the main centre of population. Just last week it was necessary to carry out a rescue in the mountains across from Vancouver, a rather hazardous undertaking, and it is important that the helicopters and other aircraft be very close to the principal centre of population and not on Vancouver island, which could mean a loss of time before they could get over to the lower mainland.

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I should like to emphasize again a point I made earlier, that I am firmly convinced that the majority of people in Canada expect the federal government to take leadership, to be strong and to appear to be strong; and if the government, whatever government is in power in Ottawa, takes that line it will not lack support from the people of this country.

[*Translation*]

Mr. G. C. Lachance (Lafontaine): Mr. Speaker, my first words are to congratulate the hon. members for Laurier (Mr. Leblanc) and St. Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) on their election to the House of Commons.

I know personally the hon. members for Laurier and St. Denis and I am happy to say that they are good friends of mine. I know that the house will benefit from their experience in politics as well as in their own field.

In the course of the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne which was capably moved by the hon. member for Longueuil (Mr. Cote), seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver-Burrard (Mr. Basford), allow me to add to the unequivocal remarks made by these hon. members that the problems resulting from federal-provincial relations are not the only ones which should be of concern to the people of Canada, even if they are the ones that stand out most at this period of our history.

I know that several other members will want to add their personal remarks and take the opportunity of this debate on the speech from the throne to make them in the house. Therefore I shall mention to the house, but not in the form of a restricting