

The Budget—Mr. Gilbert

and construction holdbacks. In areas, and there are probably many of them in Canada, where the economy is relatively low I contend all such strengths as exist at present should be fortified to offset as much as possible the debilitating effects I foresee in the Budget introduced by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Sharp).

To continue with my constituency as a sort of case history, Mr. Speaker, I say that the infrastructural needs such as wharves, dredging operations and other facilities calculated to fortify and strengthen the fishing industry should be met. Additionally, projects fomenting the regionally very important tourist industry should be prosecuted vigorously. The growth of our fishing fleet, both in respect of numbers and size of the fishing units makes once adequate structures inadequate and has brought about a need for additional shore installations. Interest in large scale operations involving fish processing plants with heavy fresh water requirements can be encouraged by governmental assistance in providing water supplies to towns and areas unable to afford such installations but which otherwise are attractive sites for such plants and other secondary industrial enterprises.

The tourist business is another place where federal assistance on an increased scale could do much to mitigate the over-all depressant effect of the Budget in areas such as Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare. In this connection I should like to mention the new national park in Nova Scotia, originally known as the western Nova Scotia park but now known as the Kejimikujik national park, I presume because it was not extended into western Nova Scotia, the point of entry for tourists from the United States by sea and air. This park should be enlarged to cover a portion of the existing contiguous Tobetic game sanctuary which lies in parts of Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne counties.

Access roads, on the basis of the roads to resources idea, should be built into the park from the towns of Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby. Federal assistance along these lines would greatly stimulate the tourist trade and further, by providing easy access to fine recreational facilities, make the towns of the constituency more attractive sites for secondary industry so vitally needed to broaden the economic base. Full development of the tourist industry demands adequate travel facilities and I am disappointed to find the government lethargic in seeing that improvement is made along these lines.

It is my understanding that improvement to the Yarmouth airport to bring it up to high standards as befits an entry point for increased tourist travel from the United States is scheduled for 1970. The provision of modern aircraft of the D-9 type for the United States-western Nova Scotia service is also currently postponed in programming until 1970. Far from postponement these are moves that should be implemented at the earliest possible date.

The second ferry service from the United States to western Nova Scotia, a must both from a tourism point of view and to facilitate the export of the products of our fisheries, seems to be experiencing an extremely long period of gestation. The delay in getting this facility under way impedes the full development of our role as Canada's ocean playground. When I point out that tourism brought into Nova Scotia some \$58 million in 1965 and the total landed value of our fish catch in the same year amounted to \$48 million, perspective is given to the potentialities of the former activity.

The short term program of aid on the part of the federal government for a low economic temperature area in a low temperature economic zone which I have outlined, with appropriate changes to suit specific circumstances, I submit should be a government policy under this Budget in all such like areas and zones in the country. I would hope the government will see to it that through its departments and agencies such a policy is implemented.

It is no more than an investment against the danger of areas of income disparity being pushed below such levels as to demand future expenditures of a handout nature vastly exceeding in cost the more positive approach of providing now the means of more productivity and the road to national economic parity.

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, I must say that a new member experiences some amusement in hearing a government supporter speak praisingly of the Budget presented by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Sharp) and pat him on the back only to be followed by a member from the opposition parties, speaking in condemnation of the Budget and kicking the Minister of Finance in the lower part of the body. Probably the truth lies somewhere between the praise and the condemnation. There can be little doubt that the Canadian economy is in quite a different position from what it has been for