

The Address—Mrs. Casselman

of education at all levels and in all branches, and I am rewarded to see the success of the federal contribution to vocational training, resulting in 170 new technical schools across Canada. In that same area, education, I am very glad to see increased university grants.

Like all Canadians I am very sympathetic and anxious to assist the aged, the disabled and the blind to the fullest possible degree, and I commend the government for their steps in that regard. That these are reasonable and practical steps is substantiated by the type of criticism of them which, to say the least, has been confused. We also welcome the proposal to set up an independent commission to make recommendations with regard to the redistribution of electoral districts. There has been much distasteful politics played in this regard in the past and I commend the government for their desire to remedy that situation.

We in eastern Ontario, particularly since the completion of the St. Lawrence seaway, are highly interested in the subject of industries and the development of new industries. We therefore welcome aid to industries for industrial research and we also welcome aid to industries through the proposal to establish a national power grid. Closely related to industry, the people of my area are always conscious of our trade in exports and imports because we live on one of the great trade arteries of the world. Therefore we have been encouraged this last few years to see the \$713 million trade deficit we inherited from the former government being whittled away until last year when we saw a trade balance for the first time in nine years. I commend the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Hees) for his aggressive policies, the hard work of his department and the assistance given to him by other ministers to bring this about.

We were also interested in the comments in the speech from the throne indicating that the world outlook still contains dangerous aspects, but that there is cause for cautious optimism and that the processes of conciliation and negotiation are in progress or are in prospect on many important issues. Canadians have reason to be proud of Canada's position in world affairs. Canada is well known to be a leader in the most important problem of our time, namely, disarmament and the efforts to set up mechanism whereby we may reach peaceful solutions to world problems.

We are also well known for our efforts to bridge the gap between the very wealthy countries of the world and those less wealthy, to bridge the gap in average income of about \$2,500 in some countries as against an average income of less than \$100 per year, all that is enjoyed by a third of the world's population. We have not just talked of these

things. Canada has contributed fully in such well known projects as the Colombo plan, UNICEF, education in Africa and refugee programs of all types.

Last fall at the sixteenth session of the United Nations Canada spearheaded the awareness of the hazards of radiation brought about by resumed nuclear testing by the Soviet union, with the successful result that the general assembly gave high priority to the annual progress report of the scientific committee. Canadian scientists have worked very hard on that committee ever since it was first established in 1958.

Canadians have worked equally hard on other important committees of the United Nations, some very well known and some less well known such as the outer space committee. Also last fall, Canada's long standing interest in the development of international law was recognized and a Canadian was elected to the international law commission. We have full reason to be proud of the fact that the deputy under secretary of state for external affairs, Mr. Marcel Cadieux, had such a large majority in his election.

In September, 1960, our Prime Minister, the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker, spoke to the United Nations and recommended the use of surplus foods to feed the world's hungry. Again Canada's contribution was not just a high sounding ideal. Last fall this proposal was piloted through the second committee by our colleague, the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Aiken), who deserves much credit for his hard working efforts. He not only showed Canada's awareness of the problems involved in food producing countries but also the problems of the agriculturists in the recipient countries, with such unqualified success that the world food program was supported unanimously.

I could elaborate, long beyond the time allowed, on the facts of our position and our prestige in world affairs. If our position is to be challenged then I feel obliged to answer the challenge by relating my own personal experience. I had the honour to serve all through the sixteenth session of the United Nations last fall as Canadian delegate on the third committee and I must say the sentiments reported earlier in this debate by the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam (Mr. Regier) are exactly opposite to anything I heard there.

Lest anyone should think that I too am indulging in political in-fighting, I have no hesitation in reporting here, as I have reported privately, the number of friendly greetings I brought back to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Pearson). I might also add, Mr. Speaker, that I find this quite natural. When the Leader of the Opposition