

Scarborough East enjoys the mosaic extending from thousands of young first home owners to thousands of senior citizens, all with one common thread of interest. They all have dreams of attaining different levels of success and comfort. Only last week these dreams became so much closer to reality for all of them after hearing the Speech from the Throne and the Hon. Minister's financial statement. They all have more confidence in both their country and their futures than they had just a few months ago.

The Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, and most especially the subsequent financial statement, was an indicator to this nation. It was an indicator which will restore the confidence necessary to create the jobs we need and reduce the massive deficit which I am sure is the top priority in the mind of every Hon. Member in the House.

The \$1 billion allocated for immediate job creation is certainly a welcome message to Canadians. However, of further importance is the attitude which has been established by the economic statement. That attitude is instilling confidence in the minds of businessmen across this country. It is the attitude of confidence, Mr. Speaker, which will, in reality, create even more jobs coast to coast. Companies which have been wallowing in uncertainty over the past few years will now invest in higher technological equipment. They will invest in the expansion of their plants where necessary, and the result will be jobs for thousands of Canadians.

I sincerely envy my hon. colleagues who are fluently bilingual in Canada's two official languages. I hope to become functionally bilingual during my next 16 years in the House.

It has troubled me greatly over the past few years that Quebec did not join with the other provinces of this great country in signing the constitutional accord of 1981. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the inclusion of Quebec in the Constitution of Canada can and must be an attainable goal of our Government over the next four years. If the encouraging views and comments from the Premiers following Tuesday's First Ministers' conference with the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) is any indication of a new era in federal-provincial co-operation, I believe the Prime Minister will set in motion the necessary negotiations to achieve this undertaking. Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues on both sides of the House to know that I will support the Government and do whatever I can to ensure that this necessary and vital aim is achieved during the lifetime of this Thirty-third Parliament.

My personal background has been in education for the past 31 years. For that reason, I am deeply interested in the youth of our country and their future. I am particularly pleased that the United Nations has declared 1985 to be International Youth Year whereby member countries from around the world are to place special emphasis on the role of youth in their respective countries. I am pleased further, Mr. Speaker, to announce that in an open letter to the young citizens of Scarborough dated July, 1984, the mayor stated the following:

On May 28, 1984, the council for the City of Scarborough, by special resolution, established the Scarborough International Youth Year Task Force to develop and co-ordinate this city's celebration and participation in the United

The Address—Mr. Allmand

Nations International Youth Year, participation, development, peace, 1985, for all youth ages 15 to 24.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, may I say I join with all of the constituents in Scarborough East in the sharing of a vision of Canada not unlike that held by Sir John A. Macdonald. Sir John A. Macdonald had a vision and knew that this country could be great. We have come a long way. We have achieved greatness in many ways, but we have a long way still to go. Mr. Speaker, I pledge my support to help in every way possible, and to work with each and every Member in the House, for what is best for Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are there any questions or comments? Then we will proceed with debate.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East): Mr. Speaker, although we are technically debating the Speech from the Throne, it is fairly evident that the real document that we are discussing is the financial statement tabled by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) last Thursday evening. While the Speech from the Throne was a very bland and superficial document, the financial statement tabled by the Minister of Finance finally showed to the House and to the country the real intentions of the Conservative Government. This morning I will discuss both documents because it is essential that we discuss both documents together.

As I said, the Speech from the Throne is a bland and superficial document. It is filled with slogans and motherhood statements which very few people can disagree with. Who can be opposed to reconciliation, consultation or greater productivity? Who can be opposed to many of these goals and principles which were spoken of in the Speech from the Throne? I examined the Speech from the Throne very closely and found that there was really only one specific proposal for legislation in that document. That was with respect to the spouses' allowance. That is a good proposal and we will support it. Of course we will want to see the details, but in general that is a good proposal.

I recall during the election campaign when the Leader of the Conservative Party was talking about his program and what he would do if elected. He kept referring to certain matters as if he was not at all familiar with what had happened in the House. For example, he said several times that they would set up task forces whereby Members of Parliament would be able to participate in the process of government. Mr. Speaker, in the last Parliament we had at least nine or ten task forces on very many subjects. I was the chairman of the Task Force on Employment Opportunities for the Eighties. There was a task force on alternative energy. There was a task force on the problems of the handicapped. There was a special committee on pension reform. These special committees were similar to the task forces. These were special committees on Indian self-government and acid rain. This bright new idea of task forces which the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) has introduced is one which was very much with us in the last Parliament.