

The Address—Mr. Herbert

and to provide strong leadership in anticipating and, most importantly, educating people about the fundamental issues facing society today. Feelings of provincialism or nationalism, although useful to some degree, must ultimately be submerged in a concern for the broader affairs of society. For, after all, there is little that happens in the world today which is not reflected more generally throughout society. If humanitarian reasons alone do not prompt us to feel concern, there are very good pragmatic reasons for not ignoring the immense problems facing society today.

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, in speaking on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, I would like to record my personal congratulations to the mover (Mr. Stollery) and the seconder (Mr. Pelletier (Sherbrooke)) of the motion. The hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Stollery) has that rare ability to be able to introduce humour into his speech to emphasize the point he is making and to hold the attention of his audience. The hon. member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Pelletier) included in his remarks an illuminating reference to the poverty that exists in the world today, not forgetting the poor people in Canada. May I underline his statement that it is imperative that Canadians as a nation give particular attention to poorer and less fortunate countries.

I would also like to add my congratulations to our new Governor General and wish him an enjoyable and rewarding term in office. His Excellency, Governor General Jules Léger, spent his youth and was educated, as was his brother, His Eminence Cardinal Paul Emile Léger, at St-Polycarpe, in the county of Vaudreuil, the county I have the honour to represent.

Many noted persons in public life have come from the county of Vaudreuil, a county named after the Marquis de Vaudreuil, who left his mark on the city of Montreal at the beginning of the 18th century. A former and very competent Speaker of this House, the Honourable L. René Beaudoin, represented the county for 12 years.

However, we are especially proud that a former Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the second Liberal Prime Minister since confederation and our first Prime Minister born in the province of Quebec, was the member from the county of Soulanges, which now forms a part of the much larger county of Vaudreuil.

Last year the town of Vaudreuil celebrated its bicentennial. Canada may be a relatively young country but in counties such as that which I represent there is a wealth of history of which we can be very proud.

I want to discuss today my thoughts on the Speech from the Throne. The intention to expand employment opportunities and to increase employment through providing workers with improved access to available jobs is particularly necessary today when there are such great regional disparities that show some areas of the country with effectively zero unemployment whilst other regions have serious unemployment problems. Not only must there be a greater effort to match the unemployed to the available jobs but a substantially larger program must be introduced to provide the unemployed with the skills necessary to fill the available positions.

[Mr. Roche.]

Particularly in the lower age bracket where youth have already spent some time as a part of the labour force, the opportunity must be offered them to acquire the skills necessary to give them permanent and more productive employment. Training-on-the-job programs should be expanded to include classroom instruction and controlled courses in industry and commerce. These courses would last from one to two years and a participant would be required to show adequate progress at predetermined intervals.

Greater use should be encouraged of the program that pays the transfer costs to transport an unemployed person to a job opportunity in another area. For the unemployed that are past middle age, legislation must effectively eliminate discrimination. I will come to this point again when I discuss human rights.

I am particularly pleased to see that there will be amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act. I personally believe that a benefit limit of \$100 per week should be reimposed and the qualification period should be lengthened. There should be greater encouragement, through revised tax measures, to take temporary or part time employment and at the same time much stiffer penalties to encourage full declaration of part time earnings.

I am most pleased that this session will see amendments to the Bank Act. The Canadian banking system is substantially non-competitive and is run from Bay Street. This statement will bring vehement denials from our chartered banks but almost 100 per cent agreement from the banks' customers. The opportunity for provincial participation will bring greater consideration of regional needs. Increased competition in the banking industry is an absolute necessity if the present antiquated and uneconomical practices are to be eliminated.

In a related area, I note that proposals will be made to ensure Canadian control of the computer communications field. The private citizen is and should be genuinely afraid that the fantastic, and certainly beneficial, advances in computer technology can leave him exposed and unprotected. There is no doubt in my mind that insufficient attention has been paid to the provision of an adequate number of trained personnel to handle the computer hardware and software being sold and leased today.

We live in a world where many of us are unaware that changes are inadvertently being made to our accounts kept on computer records. Persons remitting mortgage payments are blissfully ignorant of untraceable errors that can leave them still owing large sums at the completion of the time period at which they believe their mortgage would be paid off. As one man said to me last week, "I took it for granted the computer did not make errors". When he, in casual conversation with his bank manager, discovered an error in his account, he naturally wondered for how long there could have been similar errors.

We must ensure that easily erasable records, as has been amply demonstrated south of the border, should be duplicated and also printed out in permanent format before changes, corrections and erasures, intentional or otherwise, can be made.

Whilst on the subject of computer records, it is essential that tough legislation be introduced to protect the privacy