

I know that a magistrate is obliged to listen but he always has the last word. This will be the case today.

Hon. Malcolm Hollett: Honourable senators, I am indeed highly honoured this day: in the first place, because I have the privilege of speaking before such an assembly of distinguished Canadians; and, in the second place, because of the duty delegated to me, that of seconding the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

I wish at this time, honourable senators, to express to His Honour the Speaker and to every other honourable senator my deep gratitude for the warmth of your reception of me in this august chamber, and to pledge to you my loyal support of the time-honoured principles of this most important branch of Government, the chief of which principles I believe to be devotion to the public welfare, as applied to every area of this nation.

Honourable senators, I also wish to express my thanks to the Right Honourable the Prime Minister, if one may do so through this chamber, and to the Government for this great honour of being appointed to the Senate, an honour I regard as being conferred more on my friends and fellow-Newfoundlanders everywhere, irrespective of their political leanings.

I am deeply grateful to the honourable Leader of the Government in this chamber (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) for this privilege of seconding the motion, and I think I can assure him that all matters introduced by him in this chamber will receive my, shall I say, closest attention.

I should like to take this opportunity too, honourable senators—and I know you all join me in this—of congratulating Senator Aseltine on the honour recently conferred upon him in his appointment to the Privy Council, that select band of confidential councillors whose duty it is to aid and advise the Government of Canada.

To another member of the Privy Council, Senator W. Ross Macdonald, the honourable Leader of the Opposition in this chamber, who I know is always ready to offer his advice and counsel to the Prime Minister, I wish also to offer my thanks for the warmth of his reception.

Honourable senators, we of the tenth province came late into Confederation and as a consequence, like any twelve-year old, we are perhaps only now becoming fully cognizant of our attachment and our place in this nation—in this great family of ten.

For centuries after John Cabot landed on the shores of Newfoundland—and I trust my

honourable friends from Nova Scotia will not take umbrage at that inference—our people, all of British and French descent, lived along the coast and fished for cod which they exported to England, Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece, and latterly to the West Indies. Always a seafaring people, they faced privation and disaster with courage and with trust in Divine Providence.

Today, however, about one quarter of our population only depend upon the fish of the sea for their livelihood, and logging, the paper industry and mining for iron ore, lead, zinc and copper comprise the balance of our production, with agriculture, which was formerly a family sideline, being gradually on the increase.

Nearly all of Newfoundland's production is for export to various lands other than Canada. Most of our mineral production, our paper output and our harvest of the sea at present is shipped to the United States, the West Indies, the countries of the European Common Market, and to Spain, Portugal and Great Britain. Thus it is that our people of the tenth province pray that our central Government may not fail to make the correct moves relating to the negotiations that are now going on between the British Government and the European Economic Community and the United States of America.

Before we came into Confederation most of our imports came from countries other than Canada. Today our little province buys its needs to the extent of between \$250 million and \$300 million from mainland Canada. In our erstwhile fish markets abroad, competition from other countries—which have not hesitated to underwrite a large share of the cost of production by various means of subsidization—has been tremendous. On this account I wish to thank the Government for that statement in the Speech from the Throne.

The maintenance of fair prices for farm and fishery products continues to be a matter of prime concern...

Honourable senators, we in Newfoundland must have sound marketing facilities for our fish, just as other sections of this great land require markets for their grain. All ways of life are subject to change, of course, but if our fisheries fail to produce a decent standard of living, honourable senators, then a way of life as ancient as history will disappear from our shores. The supply of fish of all kinds along our Canadian coastline is inexhaustible, and we must find a way for a fair proportion of our population to successfully exploit it in a manner to provide the producers with a decent living wage.