

ister of Finance, in connection with the Budget for 1965-66.

Exports, of course, played a very important part in the general advance of 1964.

We all admit there was an advance.

Apart from the special wheat sales—

And I hope you will excuse me for injecting another remark here, but in that regard you will remember the criticism levelled at the former Government because of the sales of wheat to communist countries. Those criticisms were made by people in the present Government. They did not like it at that time, but now they have doubled those sales.

Apart from the special wheat sales, there was steady growth in most of the major traditional exports, the products of our mines and forests. This was a reflection of continued strength in the foreign markets for our products. At the same time, there was a striking advance in some of the newer exports, especially manufactured goods. Exporters have been helped in this field not only by the lower value of the Canadian dollar in international markets since 1962, followed by relative cost and price stability, but also by increased use of export financing facilities.

I quote that to show that the devaluation of the dollar was not such a dastardly thing after all. It was something that had to be done, and it was done. But, as I have said, certain people were more or less crucified because they had the courage to do it.

Honourable senators, I come now to another matter which worries me somewhat. Newfoundland has—and it is part of Canada—in Labrador the celebrated Hamilton Falls, now renamed Churchill Falls. If these falls were properly developed and utilized they could supply sufficient power to meet the requirements of practically all of Canada. Now, much has been said in the past, honourable senators, about unity in Canada; and in my view, this is one area where there should be unity rather than disunity. There we have a power potential capable of supplying all eastern Canada and some of the United States as well, according to what I am told, but its development is being blocked.

Honourable senators, I would appeal to all Canadians in every province for that unity which is necessary for Canada to develop this undertaking. Let us be Canadians all, not English-speaking, not French-speaking,

not Dutch-speaking, and so on,—let us be simply Canadians. If we achieve this, then there will be no problems whatever about the development of the Churchill Falls. Let us be Canadians as distinct from being merely Newfoundlanders or Quebecers or New Brunswickers and so on. If we are to become a great nation, and it is the prayer of all of us that we shall, then we must unite and be Canadians. We must not and cannot be provincially bound, but must work together to achieve this goal of unity. What does it matter what language a man speaks? We have here in Canada people from every country in the world, Chinese, Japanese, Irish, Dutch, English, French, and Russians. Why cannot we all be Canadians? Why cannot we also rise above our merely provincial identities?

Let me return for a moment to the reform of the Senate. If they want to reform us, so much the better; I hope it will be an improvement. But as I look around me, honourable senators, I see men who were here many years before I came here and who are many years older than I am, and I see them and know them as the ablest men it has ever been my privilege to meet. I think it would be disastrous to throw these men out or to ask them to retire. They are the brains of the Senate. I would to God that when I become as old as they are—though I am old now—I hope I shall have retained my mentality and ability to even a proportion of the extent to which they have retained theirs. They are the men upon whom the structure of this Senate depends; they have brains and they know how to use them. Why in the name of Heaven should we have to get rid of them? Why should it be necessary to get rid of any of us? I hope the proposal for reform will be a sensible one and that you and I will be able to vote for it when it comes before us.

Hon. F. W. Gershaw: Honourable senators, may I first congratulate the mover and seconder of the Address for their eloquence and for the subject matter of their speeches. I would also like to pay tribute to the other honourable senators who have already spoken in this debate. The speeches have been of a very high standard up to the present, and I hope that I shall be able to contribute something of value on one particular subject.

In the speeches that have already been made I have detected some partisanship. I shall not attempt to reply to any of the charges that have been made, but I hope it is not out of order for me to say that I and I think the great majority of the men and