

*The Address—Mr. Jamieson*

ensure an adequate degree of protection, on the one hand, without blocking ourselves from access to exports, on the other?

Those who talk about helping the depressed areas of the country, but who at the same time talk about moving toward greater protection, should recall that in my province of Newfoundland, for instance—indeed, in the whole Atlantic region—at the very least the advantages of the 200-mile limit and the new developments that we are going to achieve in the fishing industry as a result can be thwarted overnight unless the multilateral tariff negotiations proceed smoothly and we get greater access for these additional fish products into the various markets which right now many people are advocating we ought to penalize in some way.

There are literally hundreds of those kinds of examples. That is why the multilateral tariff negotiations are going to be difficult for this country. That is why it is going to be of immense importance that on either side of the House we do not seek to achieve very short-range political or other advantage at the grave risk of undermining the potential which we must have if we are going to expand both our natural resource base and our manufacturing base.

May I remind the House very briefly that Canada is unique in a number of respects, but particularly in this one which is very rarely stated. The United States is one of our markets and comprises over 200 million people. The European Economic Community has come together and consists of over 300 million people. The ASEAN countries of Southeast Asia now represent what is coming to be a trading bloc, which again has over 200 million people. Canada is the only industrialized country of 23 million or 23½ million people which does not have that large trading area in which no tariff considerations, or virtually no tariff considerations, exist. Apart from everything else, unless we can have access on a reasonable basis which gives the maximum assurance possible to our present domestic industry, then economies of scale, production runs and various things of this sort will put us at a decided disadvantage, even if we are successful in the tariff package which we achieve.

I see my time is very nearly up, Mr. Speaker, and I have barely scratched the surface. I would invite hon. members, either at a special session of the committee or through debates here if these can be arranged, to address these particular matters. I give them my assurance of total access to whatever information is necessary in order to make that debate meaningful; because there is nothing, in my judgment, that is more important, not just for 10 or 15 years from now but for the very near future, than how we cope with these particular problems.

If I may have one more minute, Mr. Speaker, I want to say something about the argument that is frequently presented here, that you can in some way or other separate the national unity question from the economic question. My experience around the world tells me that this is quite impossible.

[Mr. Jamieson.]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order, please. I regret to inform the minister that his allotted time has expired. He may continue with unanimous consent.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, we agree that the minister continue.

**Some hon. Members:** Continue.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** The Secretary of State for External Affairs.

**Mr. Jamieson:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the courtesy of hon. members and I assure them that I will not abuse it. In addition to the matters to which I have referred, and in relation to international co-operation an enormous amount depends upon how Canada is perceived by the rest of the world, and particularly how it is perceived by foreign investors. We have all conceded, whatever our ideology in regard to foreign ownership, that Canada is going to need large amounts of foreign capital if it is to be able to develop and to prosper. Therefore, this question of Canada's future, of its national unity, is hovering now over a tremendous range of decisions.

Regardless of the country one visits, regardless of the number of economists to whom one speaks, or the bankers, if hon. members are in Switzerland, Paris or New York then I will set it up for them. I will set it up for the government of Quebec, because if they think this is not true, then they are deluding themselves; they have their heads in the sand. Clearly, no one is going to undertake massive capital investments at the present time unless there is more clarity as to what the future is going to be, particularly in the province of Quebec. But it is also of concern to the rest of us in Canada because it spills over into every other part of this country. Therefore, to say we can fix up the economic conditions first and then deal with national unity is to oversimplify it; the two are inextricably linked.

I have one final comment. I know this is a time in this country when we are prone to breast-beat and to be depressed and concerned about our future. But the good fortune I have had through the opportunity the House has given me to be the representative of Canada around the world has put me in touch with at least 100 leaders in the last 12 months. Having listened to the problems they have—and I wish each member here had the opportunity to do so—whatever our difficulties may be in this country, if I had the chance to swap the problems of any country in the world for those we have in Canada, I would take back my own, our own; and I think you would, too, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Blackburn:** Mr. Speaker, would the minister permit a question at this point?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order, please. Due to the fact that the minister's time has expired, we need the unanimous consent of the House for the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Blackburn) to ask the minister a question. Does the hon. member for Brant have unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.