

The Budget—Mr. Blais

exploitation of its resources. Undoubtedly Canada has been living off the dividends of those resources since before confederation. In effect, Canada is a net energy exporter. In 1979 Canada exported \$1.8 billion more in energy than we imported. In foodstuffs Canada is a major food exporter. We know this year there has been a bumper crop. The crop of grain in western Canada will surpass 41 million metric tons. In terms of fish, we also know that since 1977, since the 200-mile limit, Canada has become the largest exporter of fish in the world. If I might bend your ear, Mr. Speaker, in terms of value, in 1975 we exported some \$426 million worth of fish. In 1980 that figure trebled to \$1.2 billion worth of fish exported to the international markets. You can imagine the potential! I am talking about relatively new export potential.

I am from northern Ontario and in northern Ontario mining and forest products are major export commodities. We earn our livelihood with those two basic resources and their exploitation. In those traditional Canadian resources the potential is immense. When we talk about the \$440 billion it tends to be a conservative figure, when you consider the immense potential of Canada.

As the population of the world increases and becomes wealthier, as the Third World becomes wealthier, the demand will increase by quantum leaps for all of the commodities I have described. We have just provided federal incentives to develop the northeast coal deposit in British Columbia. We freed some 30 million tonnes of coal a year for the export market as a result of that particular initiative that the federal government has launched in co-operation with the provinces. The list goes on. I could talk to you about potash, asbestos and the other commodities with which we are familiar. All these particular projects will generate investment.

In terms of Canada's manufacturing sector and its industrial development, what is important is the supply industry that will be required in order to service and provide material, equipment and machinery for these projects we are developing.

In the fish industry it means additional shipping; it means commercial development of the shipping industry. In terms of wheat, it means additional development of transportation systems; it means additional investment in the transportation area.

In the two areas with which I am most familiar one can see the potential quite readily. Let us examine the pulp and paper industry and the forest products industry and the mining industry. Unknown to members of this House, 73 per cent of the goods and services supplied to the mining industry, so that they can exploit their resources, are not purchased in Canada. They are of foreign origin. In terms of the pulp and paper industry and the forest industry, which is one of the oldest industries in the country, there is still an immense demand for the service and the supply that can be provided by that industry in the Canadian marketplace. Approximately 49.5 per cent of their requirements are purchased offshore. We can see the tremendous potential.

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I should like to talk about the shipbuilding industry. The Canadian Shipbuilding & Shiprepairing Association did a survey of what the requirements would be in Canada in that trade. It ascertained that in the next ten years, before the end of this decade, it would have a potential order book of \$33.64 billion. I see the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. McKinnon) smiling; he has a satisfied expression. He is seeing the surge of the shipbuilding industry in his area and he knows its tremendous potential. Canada has the longest coastline in the world. We are developing an international expertise in terms of icebreaking capacity and navigation through ice. We look forward to a very vibrant industry in that area.

I should like to mention as well the rail transportation industry in Canada. All hon. members know that we are fast approaching full capacity on our rail system. Both CP and CN officials will tell us that what they perceive in terms of investment ranges in the billions of dollars. If we start adding shipbuilding, rail, mining supplies and pulp and paper supplies, the amount of money which will be going into the economy in the very near future is immense.

In terms of job creation I should like to give a nice rule of thumb which we use in the Department of Supply and Services. We have calculated that for every million dollars we spend for supply and services in my department, we create 30 direct jobs and 39 indirect jobs in the Canadian economy. If we start doing our sums and start dividing them by millions, we will have the total amount of job creation which will be generated within the economy.

In terms of all investments which will be forthcoming, we have put in place for the first time an office of industrial and regional benefits. Within the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, under the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gray), there will be for the first time an office which will be able to co-ordinate all these activities. First it will be a point of focus for consultation and exchanges between the private sector and the government. As well it will be a point of focus to permit us to maximize the Canadian content of those major investments.

The third area of interest in the economic development paper is the development and exploitation of advanced technology. Last week we were all very proud when we saw the Canada wordmark on the Canadarm which flew with the American shuttle in space. The only outer marking was the Canada wordmark. In effect, the Canada wordmark saluted the world. Canadians were immensely proud because we were there in the leading edge of space technology. That did not just happen yesterday. Back in 1962 when the first Allouette was launched, Canada became the third nation in the world to reach the area beyond the atmosphere.

Mr. Thacker: Thanks to John Diefenbaker.