

*The Address—Mr. Lewis*

method of negotiation, we do not like the province-bashing and we do not like the people who were sent to negotiate. Whatever the results of the referendum, we want to solve the problems. The government wants to anticipate them; we want to solve them with understanding. There are no winners and there are no losers when the constitution is debated. Canada and Canadians must be the winners.

It is my specific responsibility as a member of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition to monitor, criticize and review the efforts of the minister of housing. In pious tones in the Speech from the Throne—one of the things that was missed in the list—it was stated that we are going to assist those unable to bear the burden of renegotiating their home mortgages in the present abnormal situation so that the spectre of foreclosure will be avoided. We know of no specific programs. We know of no specific help. And as the government said, the interest rates are coming down because the country faces a recession which this government is leading us into. We know that this government has accepted quit claims just as subway conductors accept transfers, as people abandon their homes leaving CMHC to resell them at prices that are lower than those of their neighbours who stay.

The Speech from the Throne said that we are going to encourage higher standards of home insulation. I commend the minister because that study has been made. I do not want hon. members to think that I am just picking the things that were not done. The study has been made, the study was necessary, and on this side of the House we look forward to receiving the results of that study.

The Speech from the Throne also talked about an improved Canadian home insulation program. Where is it? It is now July. We are coming to the month of August. It is insulation time but there is no program. There are no improvements.

I am pleased to see that the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) is in the House. In the Speech from the Throne there was reference made to the increased effort to develop critical trade skills. I would implore the minister to concentrate on that. We are faced with a double tragedy in Canada. We have a rapidly aging population of skilled tradesmen and we have young people out of work. We have to take action at all levels to curb this problem.

I know that the role of the federal government does not get into education; that is the responsibility of the provinces. However, there is a part for the federal government to play in co-ordinating the on-the-job training and the tax concessions that can be worked on. In my riding there are some very good people in the minister's department who go out to seek those opportunities. What we have to do is to push that program right across this country. There are link community projects which link the high schools and community colleges. The federal government and manpower department should be pushing that on-the-job training. It is vital to us because of the rapidly advancing average age of our skilled tradesmen.

In the Speech from the Throne it is suggested that the government will enter into a new partnership with voluntary agencies and local organizations in a program of community

service. This suggestion concerns me. People might ask why. In my opinion, the LIP grant mentality of the Liberal government over the past decade has eaten away at the morale of the volunteer segment of society.

Once upon a time Canadians performed a service to the community because they were concerned for humanity. There were worth-while community projects which Canadians accepted as part of their duty. Those programs are now being performed by civil servants, pseudo-civil servants and people working on grants. The government takes longer. It spends more and it destroys the will of Canadians to contribute to their communities. I urge this government to take a long, hard look at the volunteer sector of society. I suggest that we make it a partnership with a purpose and not a partnership by purchase.

Terry Fox is running across Canada to raise money for cancer research. He should become a symbol for Canadians to show what we can do in the volunteer sector of society. He is not working on a grant; he is working on a lot of determination, effort and concern. He is raising money by that dedication and concern. He will do it the way we used to do it before the federal government got into the business.

I wish to deal briefly with energy policy. I commend this government for recognizing that we need an energy policy in 1980. I will not talk about the 1970s or the 1960s when the government did not think we needed one. It has been suggested that a made-in-Canada price will solve everything. We think that the petroleum price auditing agency will act as a watchdog. There are a lot of questions to be asked. We are going to hold this government to an energy policy. Our party fought the last election on the basis that we were committed to one price for Canadians. We felt we should pay our way. We did not want to lay our deficits at the feet of our children and that meant an excise tax of 18 cents per gallon to pay for the courage of our convictions.

It has been suggested in the Speech from the Throne: "My ministers do not intend to impose an 18-cent increase in the excise tax on transportation fuels and the made-in-Canada price will result in a lower price to consumers than the one proposed in the budget of the previous administration." Those words are as infamous as the words "We will never impose wage and price controls."

The tax of 2.4 cents per gallon on heating oil will result in a higher tax for consumers than that proposed in the budget by our party. The tax of 2.4 cents per gallon is to permit the world price to be paid for tar sands energy. Not 85 per cent of world price, but world price. That is what we said we would never move toward.

I say that the Liberal party has cast adrift the Liberal candidate in my riding in the last election. He has had some problems. In 1974 in Scarborough West, Alan Martin said "We will never institute wage and price controls". In 1979 he went back to the same people. In 1980 he tried my riding and he said "The Liberals will not impose an 18-cent excise tax on transportation fuels". He did not say that it would be less, he did not say it would be more. He forgot all about home heating