

*The Address—Mr. Smerchanski*

should not be directly involved in this type of program. I repeat, Mr. Speaker, that we now require the same type of free enterprise as that which built Canada economically and industrially to the point at which we find ourselves today.

In this way we would give the residents of the poverty areas of our country an opportunity to earn a reasonable wage, recover their pride and restore their dignity. We would give them an opportunity to contribute to the success of a just society. The effort has to come from the people within the areas now described as poverty areas. The establishment of small industries throughout the rural areas of our country will make Canada grow. There are too many people leaving the rural areas and crowding into the urban areas, which have become greatly congested. I am firmly convinced that this government, under the leadership of our Prime Minister, will not only talk about these problems but will do something about them.

• (4:30 p.m.)

This is not the task of the Prime Minister alone, Mr. Speaker; this is the responsibility of all elected members of the House of Commons. I too am concerned and worried about the impact of continued unrest and violence upon the mood of the Canadian people, and about the resulting social problems. A great deal of this unrest is, because people are idle, on welfare or not gainfully employed. There is a great deal of frustration about this kind of violence which, if allowed to continue, will lead to social paralysis.

The forefathers of the citizens of Canada, Mr. Speaker, were sturdy pioneers who developed the country and laid the foundations for our agriculture, our transportation network, industry and our economy. I believe that in this house, and particularly on the government side where there are so many new members, there are capable and competent representatives who, in their own way, will blaze new trails and will continue to pioneer and lead us forward to further economic development, responsible living and good fellowship, and thus bring about a more united and better Canada in which to live. I have no hesitation whatsoever in recommending to the care of these new and competent members of parliament the future of Canada. Indeed, the future will take care of itself. We may at times, Mr. Speaker, suffer disappointment but we will certainly not become discouraged. If we do become disappointed we should make

immediate plans to try again. This type of approach when taken by government, by business or by the professions will spell progress.

Mention was made the other day of the fact that our defence and military expenditure is too high and unjustified on the one hand; on the other hand we were told that we were not taking a positive enough stand to restrain the Nigerians from annihilating the Biafrans. I cannot reconcile these two types of thinking, Mr. Speaker, coming from the same source, on the same afternoon and almost within the space of a few minutes. If we are to be responsible members of this house I think we owe a duty, not only to ourselves but to each other, at least when we rise to our feet to channel our thinking in such a way that we do try to remember what we have said before.

The throne speech outlined a number of matters about which there is urgency. For example, the government is proposing a Freshwater Fish Marketing Act, the establishment of a National Grains Council, amendments to the Farm Machinery Syndicates Act, the Farm Improvement Loans Act, the Farm Credit Act, the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act and the Fisheries Improvement Loans Act. These are but a few of the far reaching and progressive programs that are to be dealt with at this session of parliament. When one realizes the supporting information that is required and the large amount of research and hard work that is necessary before passage of these bills, Mr. Speaker, then perhaps the opposition may understand why there are 47 bills now before the house.

The prospect in store for me as the new Liberal member of parliament for Provencher, Mr. Speaker, is truly a challenging one. I shall apply myself to the best service of my constituency by pledging myself to work diligently and conscientiously with government members during the current session. Let us have all the various specifications and analyses of every kind—call them what you will—but we must get on with the job of providing the necessary background to, and the favourable atmosphere for, the economic and industrial development of this country, and the creation of a just society.

This country, Mr. Speaker, does not owe any one of us a living, but it does owe all of us the opportunity to make good if we so desire. In this regard our model—a model that has been quoted by others—should be,