

development in the various areas of this country, and especially in the Atlantic region.

I for one have news for the members of the opposition, if they will bother to listen a minute. I shall quote an article which appeared on January 13, 1972 in *The Catalyst Weekly* which, by the way, is a bilingual paper. The heading is as follows:

[English]

536 New Jobs Created in Grand Falls

[Translation]

This is my native village.

[English]

The town of Grand Falls and Victoria County have received as of September 30, 1971 from the Regional Development Incentives Act \$3,139,900 which created 536 new jobs in this area. This places Grand Falls second only to Saint John, (the province's largest city) in the creation of new jobs during the past two years. Saint John has obtained the greatest number of new jobs, (1,197), followed by Grand Falls (536), and then by Moncton (311).

This fact was reported in the quarterly publication, "New Brunswick Economic Statistics", issued by the office of the Economic Advisor. The statistics are compiled since the Department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) announced its first approvals in October 1969 up to and including September 30, 1971.

[Translation]

So, Mr. Speaker, let not the members of the opposition come and try to make us believe that the programs for regional development are not successful. I invite them to visit my area.

Unfortunately, we have heard a lot about bilingualism today, although these questions also concern me enormously since I am bilingual myself and since I represent a bilingual area where the bilingual character of the citizens is respected.

However, I think that I am right in being concerned about the \$4 million or so granted by the federal government for the benefit of the schools of the French minority in New Brunswick. I now quote an article published in the paper *Le Madawaska* on March 31, 1971.

The Société Nationale des Acadiens is concerned about knowing what will become of the \$4 million granted by the federal government for the schools of the official language minority in New Brunswick and for the teaching of second languages.

The association takes advantage of a letter to the New Brunswick Education Minister to question him on that issue and to ask other questions concerning the training of teachers in the field of vocational education, the absence of Francophones in the vocational education division of the New Brunswick Education Department, the almost complete absence of French-speaking specialists in the curriculum and research division and what will become of the pupils attending the bilingual school in Fredericton now that the Health Department has condemned it.

I am glad to say that the matter of the bilingual school at Fredericton has been settled. A decent building has been provided for the young students and I congratulate the population of Fredericton for making that decision.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that the federal government granted \$4 million to the province of New Brunswick, and I have learned from a reliable source, within the last few days, that those \$4 million had been allocated to the General Income Fund of that province, so that absolutely nothing is done to promote bilingualism, certainly not to the advantage of the New Brunswick minority. During the last few days, I got in touch with the

### *Speech from the Throne*

Secretary of State and I asked for a report on that unfortunate situation.

The funny thing about all this is that the government which has to administer those \$4 million is a conservative government which came to power in October 1969. And I quote now an article from a first-rate newspaper, *Le Madawaska*—

**An hon. Member:** A first-rate newspaper, indeed.

**Mr. Corbin:** Of course, as I was its editor during four years. But since I left it got even better.

And here I quote from that article published on March 6, 1969.

The Madawaska Progressive Conservative Association urges the government to act immediately:

At a general meeting of the members of the Madawaska Progressive Conservative Association that took place last Sunday under the chairmanship of Mr. Jim Morin at the New Royal Hotel in Edmundston, the following motion was unanimously carried:

Members of the Madawaska Progressive Conservative Association reaffirm their agreement on the principle of equality of linguistic chances in New Brunswick, regret the slowness of the provincial government in indicating its position and the steps which it intends to take, urge the government to act without further delay—i.e., in the next session—to make real the establishment in New Brunswick of a language system suitable for an officially bilingual province, and wish for complete support of those measures from both sides of the House.

The shameful thing, Mr. Speaker, is that the Conservatives who themselves wrote that resolution are now in power in New Brunswick and have done nothing to promote bilingualism. On the contrary, the population was able to realize the lamentable state of bilingualism following the film "*L'Acadie*" and the regrettable incidents which took place in Moncton.

How can you explain the lack of confidence of the French-speaking population of New Brunswick in the present government? How can you explain all the events which are taking place on the eastern and northern shores of New Brunswick? Can you blame those people for establishing their own political party, the Parti acadien? I would be ashamed to be a Progressive Conservative today! I would be ashamed to be in power in New Brunswick and be unable to serve the interests of the two founding groups of this country equitably, in a province which officially calls itself bilingual.

Fortunately, while receding in many areas, we have also made some progress. For instance, on August 25, 1971, the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) announced the establishment within the New Brunswick public service of two French-speaking units, one in Edmundston and the other in Bathurst. Those are two federal manpower centres designated by the federal government under its program for introduction of French-speaking units in the public service.

Contrary to the stupid criticisms expressed by many members of the opposition, I think that there is cause for congratulating the chairman of the Public Service Commission, Mr. John Carson, for his realistic approach in administering the laws and instructions of the Parliament of Canada, with regard to official languages. There is, of course, room for additional French-speaking units both at home in New Brunswick and elsewhere in Canada, and I