

The Address—Mr. Hopkins

centrated in Halifax and Dartmouth and including such centres as the Bedford Institute, the National Research Council, the Nova Scotia research facilities, The Defence Research Board, research efforts in our universities, and so on. This activity should be geared to areas of growth, and in his context I refer particularly to the Bedford Institute. Today we have a responsibility to develop on the east coast of Canada and, hopefully, in the Halifax-Dartmouth area, an expanding research effort in connection with the sea and its resources, including those which are beneath the ocean floor.

To accomplish the development of the three main generators to which I have referred, a tremendous expansion is needed in terms of infrastructure, for example, water services—the whole bit. Specifically, in this connection, we need a hospital. It is to be hoped the government will act early on the suggestion of Mayor Thornhill of the city of Dartmouth to provide a much-needed hospital in that city. The mayor has been advocating this step for a long time and it is one which deserves the early attention of the government. As I say, we need help from the federal government in building up this infrastructure and it is necessary for us to proceed in this regard immediately.

In addition, I hope the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Greene) will at this time reassess his position on the question of Fundy tidal power. There is certain evidence now available which calls into question the depth of the thinking upon the basis of which the government made its decision not to proceed with this project unless there was some marked change in circumstances. I hate to suggest to the hon. minister that he looked only superficially at the report of the standing committee which was presented to him, but I have a feeling he did not make a sufficient study in depth of the engineering work-up. He chose to rely almost entirely on the report of the committee itself, and with all deference to that committee, considerable objection has been found to the terms of their report. I have in mind, now, the deliberations of the international conference on tidal power which was held in Halifax earlier this year.

In closing, I urge the government to reconsider its freeze on national defence expenditure at an early date, so that we shall not entirely lose the credibility which remains to us among our allies. It is necessary to move now so that the cost of catching up will not be intolerable when the time comes to catch up. The need for a highly-skilled, well-trained and respected force has been clearly demonstrated to us in the last few days. I urge the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Macdonald) to move swiftly. He has intimated that it is inevitable the budget strings will be loosened. I urge him to solicit the support of his colleagues so that this loosening may occur not in 1973-74 but in 1971-72.

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew North): Mr. Speaker, first, I should like to congratulate the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Greene), who I see present in the chamber this afternoon, on the successful trip of the *Hudson*. This has been a very fine achievement. The recognition of this House should also go to those who are

running the operation at the Dartmouth Institute of Oceanography and, as chairman of the National Resources and Public Works Committee, I should like to extend my personal congratulations to them.

We, as a committee, visited the Dartmouth Institute last May. There is one suggestion I would make to the minister at this time. I believe we are doing a lot of good work in Water research in this country not only at the Dartmouth Institute but also at the Canada Inland Water Centre at Burlington, Ontario. I think we should be distributing some of their informational pamphlets to our high schools and secondary schools across Canada. From time to time, I receive letters from students asking why certain things are not being done when, in actual fact, the matters are already in hand. I should like to see the minister and his staff adopt a policy of sending information packages on the Inland Water Centre at Burlington and also on the Dartmouth Institute of Oceanography to the libraries of all secondary schools in Canada. If we do not relay to the people information about what is being done, then we cannot justify to them the amount of money being spent on programs.

● (3:20 p.m.)

Secondly, may I congratulate the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the cabinet in general on the strong measures, which at times have been unpopular, they have had to take to save the Canadian dollar and enable it to keep its value. It was heartening to hear it said at the recent International Conference of Finance Ministers in Europe that the Canadian dollar is in about the best position of the ten most developed countries in the world. I think this is a tribute to good management on the part of the cabinet and the Prime Minister.

Mr. Thomson: About the only tribute.

Mr. Hopkins: The hon. member can comment when he gets his turn. There is such a negative attitude on the part of some people at times that it is refreshing to get some positive and realistic statements on the record.

One thing we must do in the future if we want to institute policies that are effective is to spend more money on research. A good demonstration of the benefits to be derived from research is given by the Japanese in the way they have handled their coal and lumber industries. They have made in depth studies not only at their own domestic level but at the international level. They have compiled all kinds of data relating to those industries. This is one reason they are progressing so quickly and are in a position where they can buy raw goods from many nations of the world, manufacture them at home and then sell them back in finished form to the same nations.

It is proper at this time to congratulate the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources on his energy policy. He has had a very difficult summer with some trying moments, but I think the vision he has demonstrated will be realized.

[Mr. Forrestall.]