

*The Address—Mr. Harrison*

sowing some seed. I should like to point out to the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Mayhew) that a fish hatchery is much needed at that point. Fishing supports the Metis in that part of the country.

An Indian tuberculosis wing is also required on the hospital at Ile a la Crosse. During my travels I found that a number of Indians, especially younger children, are sent to Prince Albert, which is a very good institution for treating tuberculosis, but unfortunately the makeup of the Indian child is such that it more or less pines away when it is away from its parents. In spite of the best of care in Prince Albert, these children do not respond to treatment as they would if they were at home where their parents could visit them from time to time.

I have taken great pleasure in informing you about the constituency of Meadow Lake. As I said, it is a large one to cover. I covered it three times during the campaign, twice before the election and once afterwards to thank the people for the way they had treated me. I took Mrs. Harrison along with me and one of our daughters. We flew through to the north side of lake Athabasca to the gold fields area and to the mining development going on up there. I speak of my constituency firsthand, and I am able to tell you that I am the first representative from that constituency who has been able to speak firsthand of it, because none ever travelled up in that northern area before.

Before I conclude my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I should like to compliment the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew). I have never had an opportunity to meet him personally, but I have been impressed with his attitude, and I might say his contribution to decorum, in this house. I appreciate that to the fullest extent. The hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Low) was kind enough to come over and say hello to a new member when we came in. I have not had an opportunity to meet the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar (Mr. Coldwell), but he was in my riding. He is a very able man and I do not doubt that we shall get along very well even though we are on opposite sides of the house.

**Mr. A. L. Smith (Calgary West):** Mr. Speaker, I assure you that in spite of certain reverberations which have come from behind me I am on my feet; I also assure you at the outset, sir, that I shall not continue very long. But I do want to bring to the attention of yourself and the house two matters which I regard as somewhat important, one probably local and the other somewhat general. Before doing so I wish to add my congratulations first, sir, to you and then to the chairman of the committee of the whole, to the

clerk and to the clerk assistant, and to the mover and seconder of the address. I must say with respect to the seconder, the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Laing), that it has been my business for more years than I care to remember to listen to speeches. I do not mean those made in this house which of course are of the very highest order at all times. One can say things here with his tongue in his cheek and under our rules nobody can dispute him. I must say about the speech of the hon. member for Vancouver South—I speak seriously—that as a matter of sheer eloquence it was in my judgment just about the finest thing that I have heard in the five years, this being the sixth, that I have been here. It was eloquent not merely in phrase-making. It was the eloquence of a man who must write, I am sure, because it had a solid foundation of ideas behind the wonderful expressions which he used.

I am going to speak briefly on only two matters. May I assure you, sir, with respect, that I have been tempted many times but I am not going to try to shoot for a minute and a half into French—which I am sure will please you and all other hon. members. We have it suggested that many new committees be set up. I think that a committee should be set up among the French members who would censor the French pronunciation of those persons to whom French is not the mother tongue. We might even include the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) because he looks to me so differently at times. When he changes language he changes personality, but may I say to him in compliment that with each change he gets better and better all the time.

I am going to make a request of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Chevrier), and I hope I shall be making it of the proper minister. It is this. In view of the change in the value of our currency it is time that he, or those charged with the responsibility, should make a re-examination of the problem of coal to these middle Canadian provinces. It seems to me that this 10 per cent must be to them a heavy factor. I refer to the price that they are paying right here in Ottawa. I noticed in yesterday's paper that the minimum price of what is called furnace coal, right here in Ottawa—and in brackets were the words "American coal"—was \$24.35 a ton.

Perhaps I am the one member, apart from the then minister of mines and resources, who read carefully from cover to cover the report of the coal commission. While there were a lot of words in that report, we now have a problem of great importance to those people out there, and to the people in this