

His reply was:

Nothing has probably retarded human progress more than idolatry of our own achievements. By worshipping our own scientific achievements we kill humility. By adoring our own technological advancement we kill the urge for improvement.

I think these words should have some application and that we would do well to remember them on this occasion. We must remember as well the importance of the development of our human resources.

It is not my intention to deal specifically with the items in the speech from the throne. Actually it was rather difficult to find them. One had to wade through a great deal of verbiage to find the proposals and suggestions. I will not deal with many of them specifically today. I do, however, recognize the fact that there are references in the speech from the throne to a number of very important issues such as housing. I suppose that is one of the major problems facing us today. In the course of the debate it has been pointed out that we are not even keeping pace with the demand for new units. Because of our immigration policies and the natural increase in population in this country we all know there is a growing demand for housing. I believe, therefore, that the government must take this whole matter under careful advisement and not be satisfied just with surveys, studies, analyses and the other exercises in which they are so prone to engage. They should come forward with very constructive proposals in order to meet this crisis.

As I say, housing is an important issue. Health care is also an important issue. Job opportunities present another tremendous challenge. Then there is the subject of education. We must remember that all these matters are important only because they contribute to the welfare of men and women, the citizens of Canada. Therefore even in the light of the emphasis which has been placed on increased productivity and so on we must ask what is the purpose of production. It is to meet human need. Therefore I believe there should be consideration of all these problems. We must relate them to men and women who today require that their needs be satisfied and who must have the right and the opportunity to provide for these needs in this affluent society.

It has been said that inadequate men are a social liability. Perhaps this is true. The Royal Bank of Canada monthly letter of June, 1964, had something to say about this. Some people may not think that a bank document

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can say anything too important to us today. The newsletter states:

Being forced to live on anything below adequate food makes a man a social liability.

It is speaking of only one area.

He cannot work effectively on an empty stomach; he cannot study and learn as he must in order to improve his condition; he cannot think beyond the dominant immediate need, which is his next meal; he cannot build up resistance to wasting disease; he holds back not only the economic and social development of his own country but also the prosperity of the world.

I say this afternoon that what is true with regard to food applies to all the major needs of mankind. If man's needs are inadequately met he is ill prepared to meet the challenges of today and provide for his own needs, let alone make a contribution to the common good of his nation and other countries round the world. Therefore, in considering all the legislation, proposals and recommendations that come before this house, some of which have been referred to in the speech from the throne, we must remember that they must be related to humanity and individuals. Only in this way can they fulfil their function in our society.

• (3:00 p.m.)

Drastic changes are taking place in Canada and in our world. I believe that all these things to which I have referred as well as training and retraining must prepare our people to fit into their particular role in society and in the changing situations in which they find themselves. We believe in the development of human resources and the importance of the individual. I read a very interesting statement in the notes for the Prime Minister's speech to the national centennial conference dinner on April 24. On page 3 we find this statement:

As we move toward our second century, I dream of a Canada where the individual is never forced to shape himself inflexibly to economic and political systems, but where he can enjoy a maximum of freedom and opportunity to fulfil his most cherished personal aspirations; and to develop his full potential as a human being.

One would almost think the Prime Minister had for once become a Social Creditor because that is exactly what we have been emphasizing throughout the years. One of the very first principles underlying our movement is an emphasis on the importance of the individual and his right to the opportunity to develop his personality as he sees fit as long as he does not endanger the same privileges of his fellow man.