

Supply

Mazankowski), that careful consideration is being given to ensuring proper, just, and fair compensation to loggers who might be affected by the establishment of a national park reserve. This meets with the approval and the appreciation of the Hon. Member for Vancouver Quadra and indeed members of the Liberal Party.

I have not been to South Moresby. I have not had the opportunity, as have the Hon. Member for Skeena, the Hon. Member for Vancouver Quadra, and perhaps the Minister, of strolling through a primeval forest where the limbs start at a height equivalent to that of the ceiling of this Chamber, or where the raindrops fall from a tree which is 500 years old, a 1,000 years old, or whatever the case might be. I have not had the opportunity, as Bill Reid described in his talk, of walking through the riding of the Hon. Member for Vancouver Quadra, through a forest where the moss is so thick that only a young, strong, and healthy man could walk more than a mile. I have not had that experience.

I am a Canadian who comes from a province which on the one hand sought the great benefits of industry, the economic advantages of industry, and the jobs associated with industry. On the other hand, we have always had a dark foreboding in our hearts because Newfoundland, an island and a part of Canada, is largely untouched. Its environment is largely unspoiled. It is a piece of the planet Earth which largely resembles the way it was hundreds and thousands of years ago, except for those changes brought about by natural evolution. As every Newfoundlander, I think I have an intrinsic empathy, understanding, and appreciation of what the Hon. Member for Skeena said, and indeed what my own Leader has said many times in caucus when he talked about South Moresby.

It is an area which has a quarter of all nesting sea-birds on the British Columbia coast. It contains some of the most ancient, oldest, largest, and last remaining Sitka spruce, red cedar, and western hemlock anywhere in the world. It contains a spectacular diversity of marine life including half of Canada's Steller sea-lions and 11 species of whale, as well as important fishing resources. It contains more endemic plants, insects, birds, and mammals than any other area in Canada. Of course it is renowned for its outstanding Haida village sites, unique in the world, including a UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Site designated on Anthony Island.

I believe the House speaks with one voice today in endorsing its support for the motion of the Hon. Member for Skeena. As well, I believe the House speaks with one voice in endorsing and lending our moral support to the work, which is being undertaken by the Minister of the Environment on behalf of all Canadians, to negotiate a just settlement with the Province of British Columbia and to ensure that the rights of the Haida people are acknowledged during the course of that negotiation.

I remind Canadians, and I remind the Government of British Columbia, that the Government of Canada is rightly prepared to incur financially the total cost of establishing and operating a national park reserve. That responsibility will be borne by the federal Government on behalf of all Canadians,

including taxpayers who live in the Province of Newfoundland. We do it with a happy heart. As well, we accept with a happy heart the cost of sharing in the compensation to those people who have traditionally logged those areas.

I come from a riding with 30 per cent unemployment. However, in the midst of the unemployment we suffer, and all the human misery which that entails, I know that the people of Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe can reach beyond that present human condition and share in the aspiration and noble cause of preserving this part of Canada's heritage.

We also approve of the Minister's proposal to compensate those who have timber or lumber rights on Lyell Island-South Moresby generally. Canadians across the country are prepared for the Minister of the Environment, speaking on behalf of all of us, to make the necessary financial investments to ensure a national park reserve.

I do not want to get into the middle of the negotiations, but I hope the Government of British Columbia, representing the people of British Columbia and representing, as the Hon. Member for Skeena pointed out, the views of the vast majority of British Columbians, will see the resolution and the negotiation required to resolve the issue as an opportunity to see justice done.

The Hon. Member for Skeena said that they might drive a hard bargain. I have spoken with the Minister briefly. I do not know the details of what he wants to negotiate; obviously he cannot tell me that. However, I sense a willingness to be reasonable. I hope the Government of British Columbia will see this as an opportunity to make a contribution, not only to British Columbia, but to Canada as a whole and to the world's environmental community. I also hope that the Government of British Columbia will not see it as a priority in terms of seeking compensation for whatever package is finally negotiated.

● (1220)

Let me conclude by repeating the words of the old Haida saying. I first heard them, quite honestly, this morning. I thought they were some of the most profound words that I have ever heard to express the notion of man's responsibility in providing continuity in society. The Haidas said, "We do not inherit the land from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children".

Through our support for this motion, we shall leave that land in good shape.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon. Member for his remarks and for the support his Party is giving to the resolution and to the peaceful conclusion to this long-standing conflict.

I would like to seek clarification in relation to the policies taken by his Party in terms of the process that is now occurring. The federal Government is now negotiating with the Province to have the area set aside as a national park reserve. I