

The Address—Mr. Rompkey

reporters. Maybe the Hon. Member does not do so, but some people do so occasionally. Bob Skelly did choke up twice, I believe, when faced with a horde of television cameras and pushing and shoving reporters. Frankly, I am surprised at the Hon. Member for thinking that that should be the gauge by which one judges a person's abilities.

We have heard what the Leader of the New Democratic Party in British Columbia has said in debate and today I have read press accounts on post-secondary education, the forest industry and the creation of jobs. Those can be compared with the absolute emptiness of the performance of the Social Credit Party. It is all style and no substance as the current premier has said.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I regret to say that the Hon. Member's time has expired.

[Translation]

Hon. William Rompkey (Grand Falls—White Bay—Labrador): Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate you for your election as Acting Speaker of the House of Commons; I wish also to congratulate the Speaker of the House of Commons (Mr. Fraser). Mr. Speaker, I feel it is important for an Hon. Member to congratulate in French the Hon. Members for Edmonton North and British Columbia.

[English]

I hope you understood that, Mr. Speaker.

I am also pleased to see the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Côté) and the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Beatty) present in the House and to see them conferring. I hope they are talking about Goose Bay and the necessity for establishing a mechanism for monitoring control going to the Armed Forces, something which we all support but which needs to be done carefully and with the consent and involvement and information of the people of Goose Bay. I am very pleased to see them discussing that this morning.

I would like to address particularly the impact or lack of impact of the Throne Speech on the Atlantic provinces, and particularly on my own riding of Grand Falls—White Bay—Labrador, a riding which I have had the honour to represent for the last 14 years. I have to say that I am very disappointed with the lack of attention given to the Atlantic provinces in the Throne Speech. I have rarely seen in 14 years a Throne Speech which has addressed so little the real problems of the Atlantic provinces.

• (1220)

We hear about the Atlantic Canada Opportunity Agency. That seems to me to be an admission that the billion dollar loan fund announced in the last speech for the Atlantic provinces has not been effective. We do not know what this agency will produce. We hope it will be some sort of new panacea, but, although we have tried a number of different mechanisms in the past, they do not seem to have worked.

I do not see any new policy coming, nor do I see the addressing of some of our problems. First, there is no mention at all of the development of hydro power. Yet this, I know, was an issue of great importance to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney). I asked him on April 19, 1985 in the House about the development of the hydro resources on the Ungava Peninsula in his riding and in mine involving the rivers that flow through Labrador and the rivers that begin in my riding and flow through his down to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) said in 1985:

—I put forward a proposal which I thought would be fair to Newfoundland and Quebec, which would allow for the development of those rivers flowing into the St. Lawrence, particularly from Labrador west, which would provide unique benefits to Newfoundland and Labrador and to the lower St. Lawrence and eastern Quebec. In fact the project as we set it out would have cost about \$25 billion in 1979 dollars and created thousands of jobs and opportunities for Labradorians and Quebecers.

With regard to this specific point, I have met with Premier Levesque and I have met with Premier Peckford. I have offered the full services of my office and myself to see if we cannot find a tri-partite mechanism whereby the three Governments can proceed to the development of this enormous resource which will benefit both provinces and create thousands of new jobs.

That, Mr. Speaker, was in 1985. The water is still flowing to the sea. It is still flowing untapped, and meanwhile we are buying expensive oil. That hydro-development for Labrador and for Newfoundland is the single greatest opportunity for economic development and the creation of jobs that we have in our province today, Hibernia notwithstanding. It is the single greatest opportunity for the creation of jobs. Yet a resource which would be good not only for our province but for the Atlantic provinces and for the eastern seaboard of the United States is not mentioned and there is no policy of the Government of Canada toward that important alternate energy source.

I notice that farming had four paragraphs at the beginning of the speech with specific initiatives, and I congratulate the farming community on that. I am happy that the people in western Canada particularly, the farmers in Ontario, Quebec and in the Atlantic provinces will have something of value to look forward to. What, on the other hand, did the fishery get, Mr. Speaker? It got one line on page nine, and what does it say? In English it says that the Government is committed to improving the administration of Small Craft Harbours. That is it, the administration of Small Craft Harbours. There is, however, a difference in the French translation, which indicates there will be some sort of infusion of funds, that it will improve the funding of Small Craft Harbours. That is what it says in French but in English it says we will improve the administration of Small Craft Harbours. There is a difference between what the Throne Speech says in French and what it says in English. If the English is the original and is the policy the Government is following, it is a promise that will not be hard to keep because if funding of Small Craft Harbours is no better in the future than in the past then there will be no wharves and breakwaters to administer.

There was no mention of the very serious crisis in the inshore fishery, not just this year but in the future. Small boat