The Address-Mr. Jones

homes of comparable value to the ones expropriated. That is all that is needed to solve this problem, Mr. Speaker, not all the talk we have had for the last eight years. I hope Liberal members will live up to their commitment to solve this problem for the people of Sea Island.

Mr. Leonard C. Jones (Moncton): Mr. Speaker, I too wish to congratulate you on your elevation to the respected position that you hold. I am sure you will carry out your duties uprightly and impartially, with a sense of justice, equity and fair play.

As the only duly elected independent member of this session of parliament, I stand in a very unique position from other members of this House. As an independent member of parliament, elected as an independent, I will always have a free vote, not bound by party ties or party policies but bound by my conscience and the conscience of the public I represent, namely, my constituents in particular and the country generally.

I represent one of the most diversified constituencies in the nation. It is made up of the city of Moncton, humbly called the city at the centre, with a population of approximately 60,000 people; the town of Riverview, with a population of about 12,000 or 13,000 people; the town of Dieppe, with a population of about 6,500 people; the villages of Salisbury and Petitcodiac, and a vast rural area.

Moncton city itself is really the city at the centre. It is a centre in itself. For example, Moncton is a geographically and strategically located centre of the maritime provinces, a distribution centre, a transportation centre, a communications and telecommunications centre, an education centre, an industrial and economic centre, a financial centre and a tourist and convention centre. It is the hospitality centre of the maritime provinces, the home of the magnetic hill, of hard working, conscientious, energetic and industrious people, of fine schools and churches and of friendly and hospitable people.

Growth in the Moncton constituency is phenomenal. Traffic between my constituency and that of the city of Saint John is increasing steadily. I trust that the indication in the throne speech regarding transportation will mean, in co-operation with the province of New Brunswick, construction of a four-lane highway between these two growth centres, as well as improvement of urban transportation and other forms of transportation, so that national and regional transportation policies can and will be defined and implemented. Airline schedules and services in and out of my constituency are deplorable and must be improved.

The Department of Regional Economic Expansion recently assisted municipalities in the Moncton area in the preparation of the greater Moncton metropolitan plan, which affects every phase of the life of greater Monctonians. Among other things, this plan provides for additional roadways, sewers, water, schools, rail line relocation, and so on. I trust that the appropriate departments of the federal government will continue to render and make available the necessary financial assistance required to implement this plan.

DREE assistance by way of infrastructure and incentive grants to industry has provided thousands of jobs in the greater Moncton area and is one program that should be

increased substantially in that area. The Department of Urban Affairs has already approved a study for the development of a downtown area in the city. It is hoped that this study will be completed soon and that all the appropriate departments of government will co-operate in every way, including offering financial assistance, in order to bring this and other plans to fruition as Moncton continues to grow and expand. There is need in the Moncton area for greater input of financial assistance for the acquisition of homes, whether they be new or old, whether they be for young or old, adults or senior citizens.

(1500)

The rules, regulations and policies change so quickly that citizens have difficulty in making a decision in between changes. The policies and housing programs of CMHC must be limited to urban areas. Rural and suburban areas must be given the same opportunity.

Moncton is truly a growth centre and has proved itself beyond all doubt. In an endeavour to combat and beat inflation there is, inter alia, a need to increase production of goods and services including food, housing and other necessities. In doing so, however, there must be an effort to increase production of all human resources as well as natural resources. These include farming, fishing, forestry, mining and so on.

Incentives and encouragement should be given to young people to remain in or shift to farming, fishing and other primary resources. We need these young people in the primary as well as the secondary industries. I also suggest the government should make an effort to purchase goods made in Canada. It should encourage good quality production and good quality goods. A second look should be taken at the reduction of tariffs if this should result in unemployment for Canadians.

The history of the Moncton constituency points to ethnic backgrounds of French, German, Welsh, English, Scottish and so on. We cannot claim any distinct racial or so-called cultural origin. We should have become Monctonians, and in any event, Canadians. Many citizens in the Moncton constituency are concerned about the present method of implementing bilingualism. It has created a fear among them concerning their future welfare and that of their families. I have noticed the same situation here in Ottawa.

Public servants are just waiting for doomsday, the date of their retirement in the knowledge that their chances of promotion are practically nil. The merit system in fact is no longer in effect. Adult language educational programs in the government services and in Crown corporations just are not effective for the amount of money spent thereon. This is a perfect example of government waste and of an unjust society.

Problems of this kind usually are solved by educational means, not at the adult level but in the public schools throughout the country. It is time we took an example from other countries where barriers have arisen because of segregation. Presently there is a form of segregation or language bias in educational systems across the land. Because of this segregation a barrier automatically is set