

*The Address—Mr. Hees*

Commerce (Mr. Winters) to sell a great deal more of this crop in the export market.

5. Persuade his colleagues to appoint a royal commission to investigate the cost-price squeeze, to determine why the farmer is not getting his fair share of the price the consumer pays, and to recommend steps to correct this injustice.

I should like to address a few words to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill) and ask him to consider carefully the need for new bridges at Campbellford and Hastings. These bridges were built in 1916 to accommodate horsedrawn traffic, and are completely inadequate today to handle the considerable traffic which crosses over them every day. They are a detriment to the growth of these two very important towns. I urge that the appropriate authorities of the provincial and federal governments bring about an agreement whereby new bridges can be constructed without further delay.

I should also like to ask him to study the possibility of developing the Trent Valley system as a tourist attraction, and a means of attracting the important United States cruiser trade to this important waterway. This is a great potential earner of United States dollars, and will help solve our balance of payments problems, and bring added prosperity to the Northumberland area.

● (3:10 p.m.)

I believe that the tourist industry is one to which this government can pay a great deal more attention than they have done in the past, Mr. Speaker. The greatest potential earner of the foreign funds which are needed to balance our financial accounts is our tourist trade, and I would ask the government to realize that this is a trade which deserves a great deal more attention than it has received in the past. Our tourist operators are worthy of all the backing that we can give them and this support will pay off many times over in the years ahead. I think the government must realize that increased tourist trade is equal in potential to increased exports in helping to bring our international accounts more into balance and in providing jobs.

Increased tourist trade just does not happen, Mr. Speaker. It comes about because governments and individuals spend energy and money to provide the attractions which bring tourists to a country. The countries of Europe have long realized this, and do a great deal in this regard. Hundreds of thousands of skiers from this continent travel

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every year to Europe to ski because countries like Switzerland, Austria, France and Italy have studied what skiers want, and give it to them. We could attract tens of thousands of United States skiers to our Rocky Mountains and eastern resorts each year, if the government would take a similarly constructive approach, and help our tourist operators instead of the reverse.

The same applies to our inland waterways, Mr. Speaker. Intelligent expenditure of a reasonable amount of money to assist our resort operators to beautify these waterways would attract many thousands of additional tourists, and many millions of United States dollars. The time to start studying what will attract more tourists is now.

The suggestions I have put forward, Mr. Speaker, have been advanced in an effort to be constructive. I hope that the ministers concerned will receive them in that spirit. The suggestions have been made on behalf of the people we are elected to serve, and I can assure them that I and my colleagues will be watching closely, in the weeks and months ahead, to see how the government carries out the responsibility which is theirs.

During the past three years that this government has been in office, Mr. Speaker, I have been able to travel extensively across this country, and I have been able to talk to a great many people, and listen to their views. I have learned why they have decided to retain this government on a temporary basis only. They are tired of a government which moves from crisis to crisis, with never an over-all plan to follow. They are tired of a government which refuses to face the issues of the day, and to tell the people of the difficulties they face, and the part they must play to help overcome them. They are tired of government spokesmen who try to delude the people across our country by oratory into believing that all is well, when their common sense and their education tell them that we have many problems to face, and to overcome.

They believe that Canada deserves better government than the patching up and the making do that they are getting today. They want an over-all plan that all Canadians can understand and take part in. They want to know this country's long term objectives, and the practical steps which are necessary to accomplish the first stages of those objectives. They want a blueprint for the future. They want to know where they and their country are going. Such a blueprint will make it