

*The Budget—Mr. Hopkins*

● (5:40 p.m.)

in the general industrial expansion of the 1960's. We have unemployment. Recently the forestry industry in our area was attacked, but the attack was more emotional than realistic. We believe that the recreational and forest lands of this country can be put to multiple uses; they can be used for tourism and for industry as well as for other economic purposes, such as recreation. We think we can all live together very well.

This country is governed under the British parliamentary system of government. We can fight as much as we want within the confines of our parties, but not on the floor of the House. Because a man has fought with his party is no reason for him to feel disloyal to his party. So far as I am concerned, I have fought this battle of designation and regional development for four years, but had no intention of leaving the party. I ran on the Liberal ticket; I am a Liberal and I will remain a Liberal.

**An hon. Member:** Shame.

**Mr. Hopkins:** I am grateful to the Liberal party because it is the only party which has done anything to foster the development of the Upper Ottawa Valley.

**Mr. McGrath:** The hon. member is contradicting himself.

**Mr. Hopkins:** May I answer that comment, Mr. Speaker. The Tory administration which was in power between 1957 and 1963 was defeated because it did not do very much. If the present government is ever defeated, it will be because it is trying to do too much for the country.

**Mr. McGrath:** Now that, Mr. Speaker, is really illogical.

**Mr. Hopkins:** One matter must be brought to the attention of the legislators in this House. I am speaking of the serious shortage of medical doctors in the rural areas of Canada. We are reaching a stage today where in many rural areas of Canada there is no longer a practising doctor. People must travel miles to see one. We must give serious attention to putting more money into medical schools. We should take a good look at the high standards demanded by the medical profession. Adequate facilities must be built in our universities to permit more students to enter the medical schools, and to provide medical services for the Canadian people. In my area there is a shortage of doctors.

There has been talk about regional development under the old Area Development Agency Program which ended last December. Even with assistance from the federal government under the ADA program 95 per cent of new industries started during those years went into the major urban areas of Canada. Only 5 per cent were in the smaller towns and communities. This present program must be emphasized because Canada cannot afford to have massive urban areas such as New York City or Chicago which are faced with pollution problems, social problems, transportation problems and all the other factors that go with massive urbanization.

There are vast opportunities in Canada. We in this House have the responsibility of diversifying the economy and trying to spread industry throughout the country. We must assist the rural areas to develop. Employment must be provided in the small communities. Assistance should be given to reorganize the farm communities so that the young people may get into the farming business. In this way the great flow of young people could be diverted from the urban communities. This would assist one of the major problems, that of housing.

I wish to deal briefly with the housing problems of the Canadian Armed Forces. On April 1, 1969, a statement was made that there would be a blanket increase of \$15 per month in the rent for married quarters on DND property. At the end of this month I understand there is to be another across-the-board increase of \$15 a month. I am a great admirer of the present Minister of National Defence. He has done a great deal to assist the armed forces, including maintaining their morale. I hope whoever is holding the purse-strings will reconsider this matter and give some assistance to this minister and to the armed forces.

I wish to put forward what I feel is a constructive recommendation. I would like to see a subcommittee of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence visit military establishments across Canada to see the type of married quarters that are available. I am sure they would realize that across-the-board rental increases are unfair because some dwellings are very good, others are certainly only average to say the least. If we are to be fair to the members of the Canadian armed forces living in these houses, we must assess rent on the quality of the dwelling.