

*National Development Policy*

National Housing Act loans for the first twenty-seven weeks of last year numbered 13,002 and for the first twenty-seven weeks of this year they numbered 25,121, almost double last year's total.

I have outlined the attempts the government has made to implement a national development policy so far as construction is concerned and particularly housebuilding which is the biggest industry in Canada in these modern times. The government has taken the same approach in every other field of governmental activity including northern affairs, transport and defence production. The same approach was taken in all the activities that were undertaken by the government.

I plead with the Leader of the Opposition not to be so downhearted and pessimistic about Canada. It is terrible to see one with such a lighthearted, genial and cheery character trying to shed crocodile tears all over the House of Commons. It is not fitting. It is not in character at all for him to be acting like that.

**Mr. Pearson:** And it is not fitting for you to say that.

**Mr. Green:** I would ask him to take a look at the current issue of *Time* magazine. On the first page in the "Canadian Affairs" section there is a lovely picture of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mrs. Fairclough) and an article entitled "Fading Recession" which appears in the column entitled "The Realm". The first sentence in that article reads:

Canada's spring recovery was surpassing the brightest forecasts of the experts.

Under the picture of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and Mr. Burk the following words appear:

The nation was building its way out of the slump.

And today we have the current issue of the *U.S. News and World Report* dated July 11.

**Mr. Pearson:** Can you not quote a Canadian magazine?

**Mr. Green:** I thought perhaps the Leader of the Opposition might more readily believe a United States magazine than a Canadian. I have here the current issue of the *U.S. News and World Report* and I think even the Leader of the Opposition will admit that this is one of the most reliable magazines printed today.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** You certainly got your signals mixed on the 15 per cent.

**Mr. Green:** Oh, you would not know anything about this. Under the heading, "Business Around the World" the following article appears in that magazine:

[Mr. Green.]

To show you how fast Canada is bouncing back . . . More jobs opened up this spring than in any spring since 1952. Jobless total declined in May to 6 per cent of employables, is probably lower today.

Consumer spending is running higher than in 1957.

Housing starts shot up a sensational 84 per cent in first four months of 1958 over 1957. Housing expenditures in early 1958 were up 20 per cent.

Capital spending in 1958 will probably top \$8.5 billion—only \$200 million below the high level of 1957. Industrial outlays for plant and equipment are under the 1957 rate, but government spending is offsetting private cutbacks.

Canada's exports are running at the second-highest level on record.

And Canada's dollar is up—in excess of four cents over the United States dollar.

This gives you a glimpse of the record which Prime Minister Diefenbaker has available for President Eisenhower during his visit to Ottawa.

The turn in Canada, actually, came early this year, just when the outlook for U.S. business seemed bleakest. Canada's slump began about six months before the United States recession—

The government of Canada at that time was worse than the government in the United States, I presume. I continue:

—hit bottom in December, now is turning into recovery.

Note this, though: From peak of boom to bottom of slump, industrial output in Canada dropped 7 per cent, but in the United States, 13 per cent. While housing has stayed up in the United States, it has zoomed in Canada. Then, while United States exports have dropped off sharply, Canada's have remained surprisingly high.

Ottawa's explanation for the Canadian pickup: The Canadian government has gone in vigorously for pump priming. This has spurred housing, kept consumer spending and farm incomes high, boosted capital expenditures as well.

**Mr. Pearson:** May I ask the minister a question. Does the minister know whether that magazine is contemplating a Canadian edition?

**Mr. Green:** I would not know about that, Mr. Speaker. The Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues across the way are much greater experts on the question of United States magazines than anybody over here.

**Mr. Garland:** Maybe your picture will be in the next issue.

**Mr. Green:** You know, instead of being faced with a vote of no confidence for our national development policy and instead of the phony imitation move made by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday in bringing in his amendment, the government should have had a vote of confidence from hon. members opposite.

**Mr. Argue:** All Tories together.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member but as I interpret standing order 31 the right of a minister to