

The Address—Mr. Reid

almost evenly, and we are dependant for our very survival on a few basic enterprises.

Our constituency is right up against the Ontario-Manitoba border, and this gives us a feeling of isolation. We are the hinterland of Winnipeg, and yet our political capital in provincial affairs is Toronto. At the present time northwestern Ontario as a whole is going through far-reaching and impressive technological changes. We are also going through the birth pangs of new sociological changes, because we have no built-up urban base in the riding and are suffering from a decline in population, capital and growth. In comparison with the national average, we are static or even declining.

Although statistics show that northwestern Ontario is at the national average in such things as unemployment rates, income levels and rate of growth, the part of northwestern Ontario which I happen to represent, that of Kenora-Rainy River, is an exception to this trend. Part of it, as I have said, is the hinterland of the Canadian lakehead, but this is only a very small part. The rest of the riding looks to Winnipeg, and this has led to certain frustrations.

In the speeches of the hon. member for Dollard and the hon. member for York-Scarborough we heard a little about separatists. Well, Mr. Speaker, there is a separatist movement in my constituency as well. This movement wants to break off from Ontario and join up with the province of Manitoba.

Mr. Knowles: Hear, hear.

Mr. Reid: I, sir, do not agree with this suggestion, and when it was raised during the past election campaign I put it in this way: "Why do you want to leave Ontario? Why do you want to jump from the frying pan into the fire? You would just be moving from a Tory government in Queen's Park to one in Winnipeg".

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Knowles: But we haven't had it so long.

Mr. Reid: As I said a few moments ago, Mr. Speaker, my constituency is going through great technological changes. The first of these, and perhaps the most important, is the change in transportation services as they affect my riding. As you know, sir, Kenora-Rainy River is basically a transportation riding; this was its origin. Now that the transportation services are pulling out of my riding, it is causing a great dislocation of the population. But even more important is the

dislocation of services. It seems to me that if the railroads are going to take advantage of these new methods of transportation, they ought to be able to continue and indeed improve the standard of services they are providing to the constituency, to the businesses that are there, the mines, logging companies and storekeepers. But, sir, the C.P.R. are not doing this. They are cutting back services. They are not giving us the advantages of these changes. Indeed it seems to me that the C.P.R. in my riding is going out of its way to discourage business from using its services. I am speaking here not of passengers but of freight and express services, two of the vital things that we need.

The C.P.R. have cancelled the "Dominion". In some respects, perhaps, this is justified, but I do not think it was justified in the way the C.P.R. went about it. The excuse they have given for cancelling the "Dominion" is that it will improve the freight and express service; yet I pick up one of my local newspapers and find that with regard to the freight and express services the C.P.R. are cutting back their regular daily service to one of three times a week. They are cutting the throats of the people in this riding without even giving them a chance to fight back.

We have had the example of Kenora, where an industry came in. They went to the C.P.R. and asked them to provide transportation. The C.P.R. said, "We are not going to provide transportation for you. Find another way". So the company, being a resourceful one, went out and found another way, which was a little more expensive. Then the C.P.R. came back to them and said, "Now you are operating, we would like to help you".

Mr. Speaker, there are a great many things I should like to say about the C.P.R., but I think I will reserve that privilege until another day when I can go into them in more detail. Right now, sir, I should like to call it six o'clock.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order; the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege, which arises out of the subamendment of the