The Address-Mr. Collenette

Mr. Collenette: It is a Conservative government, I should add, in Ontario. Fishing was also being depleted.

I think one could also read the article in the context of the need for a slowing of growth in Ontario. It refers to the fact that much of Canada's prime farm land in Ontario is being developed for urban sprawl, or whatever, and that the pressures of growth are taking their toll on the natural environment in Ontario. As I travel around Toronto I notice the crowding and I cannot help but feel that Ontario should perhaps grow more slowly, as in the past. There has been phenomenal growth since the Second World War, and this has given rise to a number of problems, some of which are described in the article. I would urge hon. members to read this article which appeared in Section B of the *Toronto Star* on July 12.

Politicians from Ontario should welcome the fact that the industrial impetus is shifting to western Canada. Perhaps it is time for Ontario to concentrate on trying to improve the manufacturing industries in which it does well, such as communications and transportation equipment, and leave the processing of raw materials to other parts of the country. Let those areas develop these particular industries.

• (1410)

I hope that when the Prime Minister meets Mr. Lougheed, he will discuss a whole range of things. I hope he will discuss an energy conservation package, not just prices. There has been some talk in the Toronto press about de Havilland Aircraft of Toronto which needs to build a second plant for the Dash-8 aircraft, perhaps locating that plant in Alberta. I have no objection whatsoever. I have de Havilland workers in my constituency. If that plant is built in Alberta, Saskatchewan or anywhere other than metropolitan Toronto where the existing plant is, it will still help the economy in Toronto. There will still be some 2,000 jobs generated for parts. However, the assembly of that aircraft could be done elsewhere in the country.

When people in western Canada, especially the premiers, talk about all the industrial expertise and industrial growth occurring in Ontario, they have a point. I hope there will be some trade-offs made by the Prime Minister and Mr. Lougheed. We in Ontario expect to pay lower than world prices. I believe we should. The policies enunciated by this government when in opposition and through the election were the right ones, I believe. We should not be held up to ransom by any oil sheiks across the world, or cartels of any description, especially when we have an abundance of those resources in Canada.

When we in Ontario expect lower prices, we should be prepared to make some kind of trade-off. In annoys and bothers me when the deputy premier of Ontario views a potential export tax on hydroelectric power as being discriminatory against Ontario. In this case I agree with Premier Blakeney. If we are talking about the export of resources, whether they are manufactured or come straight out of the ground, there should be some equality of approach. I can understand the attitude of western Canadians on this. My only

hope is that the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) will take this into account when he is having discussions with the western provinces.

Having said that, and having said some pretty harsh things that I am sure some of my constituents would not want to hear, we must make it absolutely clear that we cannot allow any one part of this country, any one province, to amass a fiscal base that will erode the financial integrity of the nation as a whole. That is what is happening with the development of the heritage fund in the province of Alberta.

Look at other federal states around the world. Look at the United States and Australia where there is a similarity, where there are natural resources, oil and gas, being taken from the ground. If you look at the take from those countries that the member states have equivalent to our provinces, you will see that the resource producing provinces in Canada enjoy an unparalleled advantage.

We see the Premier of Alberta going around the country trying to get support for his position, promising money, in effect trying to buy off, if that is the word, or trying to use his money to buy favour from, say, the maritime provinces. My colleague from Humber-Port au Port-St. Barbe knows this only too well. That bothers me, Mr. Speaker.

What we are developing in this country is two central banks. If you follow the philosophy of Mr. Lougheed through to its logical conclusion, there is very little difference between his concept of Canada and that of Mr. Lévesque. We have just been fighting against that concept, the concept of co-equal states in this country. We either have strong national institutions that can govern on behalf of all Canadians, that can redistribute the wealth, that can see that the wealth of this country is shared, or we become separate states. We fought against that on May 20.

My colleagues from Quebec should be applauded, as well as members on all sides, including the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark), members of the NDP or the Leader of the NDP, for taking a non-partisan approach on the question of Quebec. However, I would submit there is very little difference in the grand design that Mr. Lougheed has—the concept of co-equal states, that the federal government is just another government with certain responsibilities in all the provinces, and that the provincial governments are paramount. This was not intended when the BNA Act was drafted in 1867. I would hope that we would arrest this trend.

Speaking from my point of view and I hope that of all members of our party, we are prepared to compromise. We are prepared to see that there is equity among the trading and financial arrangements of this country. But we cannot allow the nation state of Canada to be held up to ransom by any one of its component parts, whether that is a government in the province of Quebec, a government in the province of Alberta, or elsewhere. We should emphazise and not take lightly the fact that the people of this country have a very difficult decision to make within a matter of months. The rhetoric will escalate. I only hope we can try to work things out in a