

The Address—Mr. Pepin

I could give several examples, but I will restrict myself to the current research carried out by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources in order to learn more about our water resources and to improve their management. For that purpose, as you may perhaps know, Parliament has approved an outlay of some \$24 million for the construction of the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, a building situated in Burlington near Hamilton where specialized research on pollution is carried out.

The Departments of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry as well as National Health and Welfare also carry out specialized research. Their work is not widely publicized and I for one would ask these researchers to try to keep the public better informed. I am aware that they know each other very well, but it would also be desirable to make the rest of the country more conscious of their efforts.

[English]

The third objective of the government, besides aid to universities and besides in-house research has to do with research done by Crown corporations or by direct funding when a particular objective is either too large to be undertaken by the private sector, or in the case of problems of national significance, when there are long-range implications and overriding reasons, social or economic, for the government to do so.

I might give just two examples of that. First, in the field of space research, our recent decision to support the Telesat telecommunications satellite. An allocation of \$25 million has been made for the government's share of the Telesat development in its initial stage. Virtually all the costs, by the way, will be contracted to industry.

Another example has to do with the protection of our northern environment. As you know, we are all becoming more aware of the sensitive nature of the northern terrain. A decision has been taken to conduct a study of possible destructive influences on the northern environment including forests, tundra and permafrost.

The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has allocated some \$3 million for research in various fields to four universities, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Laval and British Columbia, over a ten year period. This is of course only part of the research going on in the Canadian north. I could go on giving examples of federal activity in the field of scientific research and industrial

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development. Let's have a few more. Through the National Research Council the federal government provides a technical information service. It also provides an industrial engineering advisory service of particular importance to small companies in the less industrialized regions of the country.

● (8:10 p.m.)

It provides support too, in concert with the provinces, for provincial research foundations and councils which perform research and development on a contract basis for small and medium sized companies which cannot afford to have laboratories on their own premises. Five provinces benefit, in varying degrees I must say, from this federal help. One that has benefited most is the Nova Scotia Research Foundation which has been largely financed by the federal government.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I come to the federal government role in assisting industry. Of course, this is of particular importance to me as Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Everyone is familiar with the names of the research and development programs of my Department. Their names give a good indication of the content of the programs. There is the Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act, referred to as IRDIA. In other agencies, there is the Industrial Research Assistance program, also known as IRAP, and the Defence Industrial Research program. There is the Program for the Advancement of Industrial Technology, referred to as PAIT. There is the Defence Industry Productivity Program, known as DIP. All of these programs, whether they come under my department, the NRC, the Industrial Research Board or the Defence Research Board, made a contribution of \$45.2 million last year to research and development in Canadian industry.

This year that amount could reach \$72 million. This is a very important contribution to the industrial growth of our country. Some hon. members may ask: What do the public get in return? I wish I had plenty of time to give many examples, Mr. Speaker. Here are a few.

R.C.A. Victor was assisted in part by the PAIT program in successfully developing satellite earth stations for the international market. Sales of the earth stations to date amount to some \$21 million, and the total market for such equipment over the next decade is estimated at \$450 million. A new device for scanning oilwell log data and translating it into a form suitable for computer processing has been developed under the