

*The Address—Mr. Berger*

to take this opportunity to reaffirm in this house that the people of Quebec repudiate absolutely the ridiculous pretention on the part of the Ralliement Creditistes, the outlaws of their national party, that they are the unique spokesmen of French Quebec and sole defenders of our rights. Also, the new separatist trend of their top leaders, added to their far too numerous blameworthy interventions and declarations, prove this in a more eloquent way than I can put it.

*[Translation]*

If I may digress for a moment, I regret that the people mainly concerned are much more inclined to make their own speeches in their own way in the house than to listen to the speeches of other members who want to submit their own claims.

It would be more advisable for them to listen more often to the speeches of all the members than to come here only to make their own statements and withdraw afterwards to their offices. Please note that it is only an incidental suggestion.

*[Text]*

The fullest expression of the spirit that is Quebec can, must and will only be made within the framework of a truly united Canada. Sincere English speaking Canadians have never, I believe, been more ready to acknowledge the indispensability of Quebec and all it means. To quote part of a recent speech by Mr. Roy Crabtree, president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association:

Those Canadians, the overwhelming majority here and in the other provinces who refuse to take seriously any question of a divorce between Quebec and the rest of Canada, are entirely right to do so. They have enough sense to see that there can be no viable future for Quebec split off from the rest of the country and that Canada minus Quebec is just not Canada.

*[Translation]*

We, in Montmagny-L'Islet, also want a united Canada, provided our rights and privileges are duly respected. The present government has pledged itself to that end but it goes without saying that it will soon have to take direct and positive action.

We are pleased to see that ARDA now comes under the Department of Forestry and we place our trust in its new head. The south shore development and expansion board has already prepared and distributed its re-development program by submitting a lengthy and forceful brief last January; I wish to congratulate its officials and assure them of my fullest support.

I am particularly happy to stress that the lumber industry in the American state of Maine, which is next to my riding, has been, this winter, the most active and productive

of our two countries. However, this success reminds me of the fact that the crucial problem of unemployment insurance for our Canadian lumbermen who are working in that American state has not as yet been settled and is causing us much worry and trouble. I would ask the Minister of Labour to make every effort to find, together with his American counterpart, as soon as possible, a happy formula to rid us once for all of that social and economic evil.

Some problems of immediate urgency have been solved, but there are many others which this government has as yet to consider, before a solution becomes apparent. Thus, at home, there would be need for improving air and sea transport facilities in my riding, on a year-round basis between the islands and the mainland. There should be some improvement in the railway service, more particularly with regard to the passenger service which seems far from satisfactory, at this time and I shall certainly have an opportunity to deal more explicitly with this matter in the near future. I might mention the need to improve our obsolete harbour facilities in order to help shipments of all kinds: lumber—finished and unfinished—pulpwood, manufactured products like textiles, electric appliances, stoves and heating material, agricultural implements, furniture, etc., market garden products, passenger transport for sport and other purposes, and so on.

For a long time Montmagny has been asking—and a perusal of the record will bear that out—for adequate facilities so that ships would not have to wait for the whims of the tide to enter or leave the port. There is no longer any valid reason to refuse to grant this legitimate request. The Department of Public Works, which is well aware of the situation, is therefore asked to take necessary action to ensure the survival of the important industrial centre of Montmagny on the south shore, which is constantly and rapidly developing in spite of strong and bitter competition, and which wants to keep its place in the sun.

As for the Post Office Department, it will also be made aware of the urgent problems concerning the improvement of its service, as for instance, the establishment this year of a letter carrier service in the city of Montmagny, and, in co-operation with our municipalities other interesting projects, with regard to the postal buildings themselves. But I shall have an opportunity to discuss such matters later on.

We also rejoice over the coming changes to the housing loans act. This measure will greatly contribute to creating many new home owners, young and old. Despite the opposition's uproar, which, only a few days ago,