

introduced to remove this long-standing discrimination against Indian women.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Burghardt: Lastly, Mr. Speaker, what is a country without a cultural heritage? How do we have an identity unless we know who we are? Through a new national broadcasting policy already announced by the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox), and through the recognition of the importance of cultural industries, we are providing a climate for creative activity. This activity will transcend all forms of electronic technologies.

Changes to the copyright laws, long overdue, to provide greater protection to the artistic community should be applauded by all members of this House. These are the kind of programs this Government must continue to carry out as we, among all the countries of the world, struggle with the changes that are coming about through technology, the changing demands of the world and the changing values of society.

Now that we have heard the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, an important document setting out the priorities of this Government, I am sure all members of this House look forward with eager anticipation to hearing from the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Mulroney) tomorrow what might be his substantive and carefully thought out policies for the future of our country.

As political people we are, perhaps, all prone to think in the short term, to strive for short-term results. This again is why I support our Prime Minister on his peace mission, his global, long-term thinking and planning and his statesmanlike leadership.

Mr. Trudeau: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Ask him when he is going to step down as Leader!

Mr. Burghardt: Let us also think in similar terms, in positive terms, and let us plan in a positive manner. Let us get our initiative from our hearts and plan to have our hearts so positioned that our minds plan, and all our works derive from, such a framework. Reciprocity breeds reciprocity. Understanding breeds understanding, exposes greed and selfishness for what they are, sure avenues to war and economic disaster.

There are important, even crucial, days ahead for all of us, Mr. Speaker. We should not be pessimistic for we are the product of a proud heritage. Canada's record is one which was not achieved through compulsion. Those who built this nation were architects of freedom who dared to dream big dreams. Today, their names are on hospitals as well as factories, on universities as well as consumer products. They drafted laws for the protection of freedom, as well as blueprints for new machines. Their imprint on the Canadian character is unmistakable. And we must do likewise if we are determined to make of the whole nation everything it has the capacity to be.

The Address—Mr. Gourde

● (1540)

If we look at what we have already achieved together in this country, is there any reason we should fear big challenges and bold attempts? Canada has as much reason as any nation to dare the role, and more reason than most to hope for success. Let us therefore build an identity for Canada as world leader; a country that has the wisdom to care and the ability to prove it.

It is particularly fitting that the thrusts and objectives of the Speech from the Throne are in harmony with such philosophy at this very festive and holy season. Let us work together to build a great future for Canada in peace and prosperity, a future in a global world that cherishes the lives of our children and generations to follow.

I thank you for your attention, Mr. Speaker, and I now move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Lévis (Mr. Gourde), that the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Edward Richard Schreyer, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada, Chancellor and Commander of the Order of Military Merit, upon whom has been conferred the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are there Hon. Members seeking to ask questions of the Hon. Member who has just spoken, since the rules of our House provide for a ten-minute question and answer period?

[Translation]

Mr. Gaston Gourde (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, there have been many times when I have had occasion to speak in these august surroundings on subjects of local or more general interest. However, in the course of my short parliamentary career, today's speech will be the most important one I have, as yet, made in the House. Having been called upon to exercise this privilege and to do so on behalf of all my constituents, I would like to thank the Right Hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) for asking me to move the address in reply of the Speech from the Throne, and I think that the honour that has been bestowed on me also extends to all my constituents.

Yesterday I was also very pleased, as were the Members of all parties here present, that Madam Speaker has returned to this House and, Mr. Speaker, I may add that you yourself, as Deputy Speaker, have been a worthy substitute, because there have been a number of times that you were addressed as Madam Speaker.

Traditionally, and I would not wish to break with such a tradition, it has been customary to deal in this speech with topics of particular interest to the constituency. I would say