

The Address—Mr. G. LeBlanc

that kind of occupation. I realize that many hon. members will think this suggestion is far out, but we should do one of two things. We should either quit paying lip service to motherhood and making it impossible in the meantime for mothers to do a good job of raising families or we should recognize that motherhood is one of the most important careers that any woman in this country can follow and we should provide the wherewithal for women to make a good and proper job of that occupation. I welcome very much the Vanier Institute of the Family and hope that this institute will devote itself to studying what is necessary in order to keep good family conditions in this country and build them where they do not exist.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that such measures are necessary to establish Canadian families on a firmer basis.

I can think of nothing better to show, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, our strong determination, as citizens of this large country of ours, than to work together to erect a modern building for all the families of our beloved country.

It would be a fine home reflecting a standard of living commensurate with our abundant resources and our advanced technology.

It would not house only wealthy and influential families but all families down to the smallest farmer and the most humble worker. They would all be accepted as essential to the welfare of the country, and their work, as well as their leisure, would enrich Canada's culture.

Finally, it would be a house where every man and woman would feel at home, both as an individual doing his part in increasing production, and as a consumer fully enjoying all those goods and services; in short, a small piece of this rich mosaic making up our country.

In the various parts of our huge country, we could keep on living in our own room, while being free and happy to go in any part of the house, as masters in our own home.

● (4:00 p.m.)

Mr. Guy LeBlanc (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, first of all, I am pleased to reiterate, on behalf of my fellow citizens of the riding of Rimouski, my congratulations to the mover and seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, the hon. member for Dollard (Mr. Goyer) and the hon. member for

York-Scarborough (Mr. Stanbury). Both of them spoke with great dignity and sincerity and, at the same time, described in a very concrete and realistic way the aspirations and the needs of the people of Canada.

May I point out at this stage that there exists a historic friendship between the ridings of Rimouski and York-Scarborough that should be a source of inspiration for all Canadians. That link of friendship is, on the one hand, the election in 1842, in the riding of York, of one of our greatest French Canadian statesmen, Hippolyte Lafontaine, and, on the other hand, the election by acclamation in 1843 in the riding of Rimouski, of an English speaking reformist leader from Upper Canada, Robert Baldwin.

Following the example of the electorate of that time in the constituencies of York and Rimouski, let all of us Canadians in 1966 join together and respect each other's personality and character, so that we may all continue to build a better Canada.

My constituents gave the speech from the throne a good reception, first because it meets their wishes as inhabitants of the pilot territories for the development of the Lower St. Lawrence, Gaspé and Magdalen Islands, and second, because it answers their immediate needs. They want to take part in the building of Canada.

The constituency of Rimouski is located in the picturesque Lower St. Lawrence region, at the gateway to the Gaspé peninsula. It includes the city of Rimouski, the towns of Mont Joli and Trois Pistoles, some 15 parishes established in the last century along the shore, and about ten other parishes further inland, opened to settlers around 1930.

The economy of the area is based mostly on agriculture and forestry.

Allow me to remind you that there are in Mont Joli, a magnificent airport built during the second world war, C.N.R. yards and a few smaller industries including a silk hose manufacture and a creamery.

Trois Pistoles had a flourishing lumber trade at one time; it still has sawmills, planing mills, docks and a tourist industry. It is the home port of a ferry which crosses daily to the North shore during the navigation season and schooners still call to load wood for pulp mills. That community is mostly known for its summer school of English and French.

As for the city of Rimouski, it forms with the adjacent municipalities, a community of some 30,000 people, that is to say the largest