

*Northwest Territories Act*

Yukon territory. Possibly this is the answer, or part of the answer, to the problem which I think the territorial council in the Northwest Territories is facing.

Those of us who call northern Canada home acknowledge the contribution to the development of our area made by successive governments of Canada. We have seen the growth of our educational system which, in the space of a decade, has increased enrolment in schools from 15 to 20 per cent to 85 per cent at the present time; and within a few years this enrolment should reach the maximum of 100 per cent. We are proud of the fact that a student can enter primary grades and continue his education through lower school, high school and college at no great financial sacrifice to his parents. Through our education program it is possible for our youngsters whose parents still live in the traditional way to receive a complete education and to take their place in Canadian society.

The education program of the north is a good program, but like all good programs it has its limitations. Northerners are concerned sometimes by the direction the program may be taking. We wonder whether the program itself is training people to meet the responsibilities of a developing northern economy. I should like to think that within a very short time the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, through the officials of his department, might consider, our resources lying, as the minister himself said, not on top of the ground but beneath the ground and whether our education program should be designed to train our young people to participate in the mining and oil industries. I hope that the minister might consider the establishment of a school of mines in the north which would not only train our young people to take their place in the northern economy, but to take their place particularly within the mining industry.

As I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, the proposed amendments which are before the house in my opinion, and I suggest in the opinion of many people, can only be considered as housekeeping amendments. Perhaps there are one or two contentious issues here. However, in the interest of expediting the enactment of legislation which will permit the granting of the franchise to the only residents of Canada who do not have it at the present time, I hope that this bill can pass the house very quickly.

[Mr. Orange.]

I also hope that members such as the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard), who expressed a very great interest in the north and the desire to visit northern Canada, will have the opportunity of presenting their views to the Carrothers commission. I commend the hon. member for his interest in northern Canada, and I hope that this interest will permeate throughout the entire house so that Canadians generally will become involved and concerned with northern Canada, which in the opinion of many of us is the place where Canada will make its true mark in the world.

● (9:30 p.m.)

**Mr. Nielsen:** Would the hon. member permit a question, after his very excellent speech. I may have misheard him, but I do not think so. Does he not agree, under the act as it exists now, that the Commissioner in council has the absolute authority to legislate with respect to fiscal matters, but that in the proposed change he may not so legislate except when the appointee of the government of Canada introduces a money matter to council?

**Mr. Orange:** No.

**Mr. Nielsen:** The hon. member will not agree with that.

**Mr. Orange:** No.

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** It is always refreshing, Mr. Speaker, to hear the representatives for the vast area north of the sixtieth parallel in debate in this house. As the previous speaker has just indicated, regardless of party they bring a refreshing atmosphere, a refreshing candor to the house, which is a style that is peculiar to northern representatives. I would agree with the present member for the Northwest Territories that that has been demonstrated here over the years. Mr. Hardie, when he was a member, radiated that particular essence of the northerner. He was succeeded by his wife for a short period, who carried out the work of her husband. More recently we have had that genuine northerner, Mr. Rhéaume, in the house. I call him genuine, without prejudice. He grew up in northern Manitoba. Even though I myself am a Manitoban, when I say that in many respects Manitoba has pioneered northern development, I think I shall be understood by hon. members to be speaking without prejudice. Mr. Rhéaume had the