

The Address—Mr. Dinsdale

figure out how many fish would be required in order to be able to send to Windsor or Oshawa to purchase a car. But I suppose the fisherman can dream that some day he will reach those heights by changing from Atlantic fishing to western farming.

Mr. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, when I first entered this house in 1951 I did so as the member for Brandon constituency. At this time I return as the member for Brandon-Souris constituency, a situation resulting from the redistribution that became necessary following the 1951 census. In taking my place in this house for Canada's twenty-second parliament I am aware of the enlarged responsibilities that redistribution has brought about. Hon. members who have spent several years here will recall with affection the former member for Souris constituency, Colonel Art Ross. It is my responsibility to combine the work that he did during 13 years in the house with the work that I undertook formerly on behalf of Brandon constituency.

I am sure that hon. members will be glad to hear that Colonel Ross's talents in public affairs are not going to be wasted. I believe most hon. members are aware that he was successful in being elected a member of the Manitoba legislature for the constituency of Arthur. Incidentally that was a gain for the official opposition in the Manitoba legislature. I feel sure that the talents and skill in debate displayed in this chamber will stand him in good stead as he takes his place in that legislature.

If I were to fully discharge my responsibility to him I would be making an extended address this afternoon in connection with the wheat situation on the prairies. However, that subject has been covered most thoroughly by several other speakers who represent the west and I shall come back to it only if I have time at the end of my general discussion this afternoon.

In congratulating you, Mr. Speaker, I do so in more than a formal and perfunctory way. As a young member of this house I always felt that you were trying to put me at ease by at least seeming to take an intelligent interest in what I was trying to say. Sometimes when you look around this chamber you find it not too well populated and you wonder whether your remarks are being absorbed by anyone. Therefore it is always encouraging to see an intelligent gleam from the Speaker's eye.

In mentioning the mover (Mr. Hollingworth) and the seconder (Mr. Villeneuve) of the address in reply to the speech from the throne may I say that I was impressed with the youthfulness of both these hon. members.

I think it is encouraging as we look around this chamber during the first session of our new parliament to find younger members in all the parties.

A young man who takes it upon himself to enter public service as a member of the House of Commons finds certain peculiar problems confronting him. He must face certain handicaps in connection with his family, his professional ambitions and so forth. I feel that hitherto these have been a deterrent to many younger citizens of this country entering public service. I am hoping that as modern air transportation and other rapid means of transportation and communication become more readily available their use will be extended to members of parliament, particularly those from the farther western points or the maritimes, so that they may be able to overcome some of these difficulties and be in a position to more effectively represent their constituencies.

I admired the confidence of the mover and seconder of the address in reply but I suppose it is fairly easy to strike a note of confidence when you are returned to this house as a member of the majority party, particularly when that party has been returned once again with an unfortunately overwhelming majority. I say "unfortunately", and I shall enlarge upon that after I have dealt generally with the situation that confronts us.

Notwithstanding that majority I sense an underlying uneasiness on the part of those on the government benches. That is a healthy and wholesome sign in a democracy because it is at least a recognition that they are aware of the tremendous responsibilities they are carrying at this time.

I have taken part in three throne speech debates. The last time I spoke in a debate of this kind I was looking forward to what I referred to then as the day of deliverance. It did appear as if the unbalanced situation that has prevailed in our Canadian House of Commons for the past four or five years was about to be corrected. There was a growing dissatisfaction across the country concerning many matters—the inevitable problems that arise when one party has been in power too long and with too large a majority. Those issues were hashed and rehashed during the campaign as they had been discussed in this house: the increasing cost of government, increasing taxation, increasing government control and complexity of government, the tendency towards government by decree and order in council rather than by parliament. Those things are bound to occur in any democratic form of government when one group holds power too long. Notwithstanding the dissatisfaction