

*The Address—Mr. McCleave*

that we as Canadians will respond to that challenge.

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax):** Mr. Speaker, it is nice to take part in the throne speech debate because it is a good way to break the ice at the start of each parliamentary session.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the hon. member would permit a question. He spoke about breaking the ice. Is this to be an historic declaration in favour of ice breaking?

**Mr. McCleave:** I shall have some answers for the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill) later. I thought the metaphor I used was perhaps appropriate considering the late spring but I had not considered how quickly the hon. gentleman can spring from his seat to interrupt the start of another member's speech.

It is a pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to see you in your place. I might borrow the words of a poet, it is so nice to have you back where you belong.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. McCleave:** I would hope that someone would pass along our regret that the deputy chairman of committees of the whole, as reported in the *Montreal Gazette*, had to re-enter hospital in Montreal this morning for an operation. We will miss him and we hope for his speedy return this time with complete recovery.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. McCleave:** While I have used poetic words in respect of our officers I do not use them in respect of the throne speech. It could have been a stirring call to Canadianism. Instead I compare it to a menu with many items which have appeared so constantly in the past, such as the Canada Development Corporation, that they now have become a sort of Liberal helping of hash.

I should like to compliment the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo (Mr. Jamieson) and the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Côté) for their very interesting and well delivered speeches in initiating this debate. I believe they were most effective when they brought before us their own particular fields of knowledge. If I differ in any way with the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo it would be in respect of his remarks on youth and its disillusionment with things political today. I suggest that perhaps one reason for the disillusionment

is the gentlemen with whom the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo now finds himself associated. Solemn promises were made in regard to some \$10 million for university scholarships but these promises have not been kept. Surely that would disillusion anyone. I have also heard the cry that there are not sufficient facilities available at universities or colleges to look after those students who would be the recipients of the \$10 million in scholarships. That is a feeble excuse for not educating our young men and women. Many of them will not receive the necessary education simply because there are not sufficient facilities.

● (3:00 p.m.)

Many members on all sides of the house, including the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo (Mr. Jamieson), have areas of poverty in their constituencies. I have such areas in my constituency and I know that the only way the vicious cycle of poverty which has encompassed some families for several generations can be overcome is by providing higher education to the young boys and girls. Of all the sins of omission that this government has committed this is the most conspicuous. No wonder the youth of this country are disillusioned with this government.

The throne speech made no reference to the problems confronting maritime transportation. We dealt with that aspect of national transportation at some length last year. Yesterday I directed the following question to the Minister of Transport:

—would the Minister of Transport assure that legislation relating to maritime transportation will be dealt with in this centennial session?

His answer was:

I could not possibly give such an assurance, Mr. Speaker. It would be very presumptuous on my part to say what this house would deal with.

We all realize that the government initiates and proposes legislation which this house eventually disposes of, and I was surprised to hear the hon. gentleman make that kind of remark. I hope he will now pop up in his seat as he did at the beginning of my speech to indicate that such legislation will indeed be brought before the house during this session. Surely that was an assurance we were given last year.

We do know that the special study on maritime transportation had some reference to the Minister of Transport's empire because Mr. Victor Gruen of the *Halifax Chronicle-Herald* referred to some very interesting points uncovered by that study. I hope the