

National Economic Development Board

legislation now before us on our economy, because I hope that a Liberal government will be in power even before the board is in operation and a Liberal government will heed the suggestions made by the people in the way it has always responded to their wishes during its many terms of office.

One wonders—

Mr. Caouette: You have every reason to wonder.

Mr. Legare:—if the government has truly sought, during the past five years, formulas to sustain the impulse given to our economy by a Liberal administration. I cannot find any such formula.

What are those great projects the government has devised and launched?

It continued the construction of the trans-Canada highway which was the work of a Liberal government.

Mr. Caouette: That is the tax system.

Mr. Legare: It completed the construction of the trans-Canada pipeline, another Liberal project.

Mr. Caouette: C. D. Howe.

Mr. Legare: It completed the St. Lawrence seaway, another Liberal project.

Mr. Caouette: Chevrier.

Mr. Legare: And if I go down to the level of regions, I still see that it refused to step in and that it let the situation worsen.

In fact, in my riding, it failed to make a better use of the Mont Joli airport, in which a Liberal government had invested several million dollars.

In Rimouski, it failed to build grain silos, which had been requested from the government long before the member for Bellechasse (Mr. Dumont) rode this subject to death.

Mr. Gregoire: When did you ask for it?

Mr. Legare: At Trois Pistoles, there was a splendid opportunity to revive the economy by building a wharf which would have served the local trade, the local manufacturers who seek after the north shore market, and also which would have been useful for pilotage purposes.

And about pilotage, I regret the backward move of the government when they relocated the pilotage station from Father Point to the north shore, more particularly Les Escoumins. I believe that such a step will one day have nefarious consequences and I am

afraid that we will have to deplore loss of life, if not heavy damage, at the present location of the station. And I make this statement after having consulted with experts in the field.

As a matter of fact, the old seamen, the experts with many years of experience in the field of pilotage are recommending the establishment of the pilot base on the south shore and I urge the government to reconsider the matter and to think about relocating it in Trois Pistoles, building a wharf which would not only serve the local trade, but also the needs of the pilot system. That, Mr. Speaker, is in one riding only. I could speak of neighbouring counties where no more work was done.

For instance, I could speak of the riding of Matane where harbour improvements and the construction of a landing strip have been promised for the past five years.

I could take the case of the neighbouring county to the west, the riding of Temiscouata, where the government promised to build a deep water harbour five years ago.

I could also speak of the county of Gaspé where the present government is committed to build a railroad line.

But I notice that the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette) would like me to speak about him. I will therefore say a word about the hon. member who has interrupted me on several occasions.

Actually, I was surprised to hear the hon. member speak on planning, and declare at least 20 times, on the radio, in the course of various lectures, or in this very house—

Mr. Caouette: When?

Mr. Legare:—that he is dead set against any type of planning, whether it comes from the top, the bottom, the right or the left. Did he realize that he was in direct contradiction with his leader who, during the debate on the measure, spoke for planning? I quote:

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

(Text):

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order; I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member for Villeneuve, but I think that this is a matter for debate. It is something upon which he can take the floor in due course.

Mr. Caouette: I rise on a question of privilege. You put on the translation and you will understand in French.