

chief ministers of the Commonwealth countries in the Caribbean. We hope this will mark the beginning of a new era in our relations with the Caribbean countries. Of course, those of us who represent the Atlantic provinces cannot help but feel that this is of special interest to us, although I think it is also of great interest to all Canadians, including British Columbia which has a considerable market for exports in the Caribbean, as I discovered on a recent visit.

The hon. member for Victoria-Carleton knows, of course, because he was one of the initiators of the board, that the board has the power to initiate industrial development and so has the government, but it has been found that the co-operation with all the provincial governments has been so close and constant that the question has almost not arisen. I am sure the hon. member for Victoria-Carleton also came to that conclusion when he was first responsible for setting up the board. One thing we certainly do not want to do is to let the board work at cross-purposes with any of the provincial governments and the very effective agencies that they now have in all the four provinces for the promotion of industrial development. There is the very closest and almost constant connection between the two. In the case of Nova Scotia let me say a word about Mr. Frank Sobey who was appointed to the board by the previous government and is still a very valuable member of the board and also the head of Industrial Estates. That dual situation has certainly made co-ordination easier. The mayor of Saint John is one of the members of the board. In selecting members we have sought, as did the previous government, to select people from all parts of the region who would represent all of the varied economic interests. I should like to pay a great tribute to all those who have served on the board, no matter by which government appointed, for the single-minded devotion with which they have served, and served voluntarily, as the hon. member for Kings (Mr. McQuaid) pointed out yesterday, to the great benefit of all regions in Canada.

• (4:30 p.m.)

I agree with the hon. member for Victoria-Carleton (Mr. Flemming) that we ought to look ahead. I also think we ought to try to emphasize, as I did yesterday in a rather clumsy way, some of the advantages, which perhaps were not advantages even five, six or ten years ago, of the changing patterns of world trade. These changing techniques in

23033-440j

Atlantic Development Board Act

transportation will, I believe, give the Atlantic provinces, when combined with their resources of industrial power, advantages that they have not had before for a long time in respect of the development of certain kinds of industry.

In that context I would recall to hon. members the fact that nearly all the freight has tended to move from central Canada to the Atlantic provinces and that there has been very little in the way of return shipments either by sea, by land or even by air. The result of this, of course, is that in order to make the return voyage profitable very advantageous rates can now be had for west-bound traffic.

This has made for certain kinds of industry and has created a very great advantage to industry in locating in those provinces, particularly if they can combine an export function with production which is available to the big, rich central Canada market. The Clairstone Company has recently opened a plant in Pictou County, and I hope and expect that it is going to be one of the pioneers in a movement which I think will gather a good deal of strength in the next few years.

I should now like to make one or two observations about what was said by the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam (Mr. Douglas). I do not think that the hon. member really meant to describe \$50 million as a little dribble. I am still modest and old-fashioned enough to think that \$50 million is a great deal of money, even in 1966. Sometimes I think we are a little apt to take these amounts in the multi-millions too much for granted.

I suppose, Mr. Speaker, that because I was brought up in the bush of northern Manitoba where there was not much money this feeling made a permanent imprint on my mind, but I have always thought there is a lot to be said for prudence when you are handling other people's money or even your own. That does not mean, sir, that I am not willing to take risks. When I left my previous occupation to become a politician I gave a demonstration that in certain circumstances risk did not frighten me too much. There are a lot of big risks that I am quite prepared to take in discharging the responsibilities I have and in encouraging the Atlantic Development Board to discharge its responsibilities.

An hon. Member: Here we go again.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Speaker, the repeated failure of the power supply in this chamber I